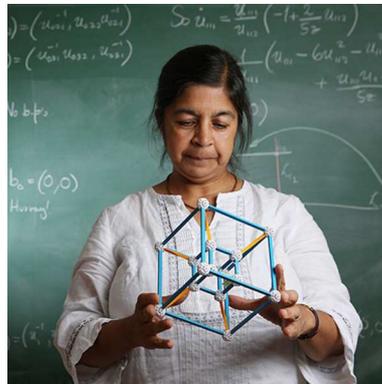# Professor Nalini Joshi AO

Photograph: Ted Sealey

In the Queen's Birthday Honours, Professor Nalini Joshi from the University of Sydney was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to mathematical science and tertiary education as an academic, author and researcher, to professional societies, and as a role model and mentor of young mathematicians.

Nalini has had a distinguished career, beginning with winning the University of Sydney Medal in applied mathematics, and then a PhD in Princeton supervised by Martin Kruskal.

Besides her research in ordinary differential equations and dynamical systems, she has served the mathematical community in a number of roles. She actively lobbies to reduce the gender gap in mathematics.

Her first positions were at the Australian National University, and then the University of New South Wales.

In 1997, she won an Australian Research Council senior research fellowship, which she took up at the University of Adelaide. The following year she was made an associate professor/reader there.

In 2002, she returned to the University of Sydney as Chair of Applied Mathematics, becoming the first female professor of mathematics at that university.

Since 2006 she has been director of the University's Centre for Mathematical Biology. From 2007 to 2009 she was head of the School of Mathematics and Statistics, and has been associate head since 2010.

In March 2008 she was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, only the third female mathematician ever to receive this honour.

She has held a number of positions in the Australian Mathematical Society, in particular serving as president from December 2008 to September 2010.

She was chair of the National Committee for Mathematical Sciences from 2011 to 2014, and a board member of the Australian Mathematics Trust from 2010 to 2013.

In 2012, she became an ARC Laureate Fellow, with a five-year project, Geometric construction of critical solutions of nonlinear systems. Along with this award, she received the Georgina Sweet Fellowship for women in science and technology disciplines.

In 2015 she was the 150th Anniversary Hardy Lecturer. This award by the London Mathematical Society to a distinguished overseas mathematician involves an extensive series of lectures throughout the UK for a period of about two weeks.

We wish her continuing success.