



Nominations sought for the 2014 AustMS Medal

The Medal Committee for the 2014 Australian Mathematical Society Medal is now seeking nominations and recommendations for possible candidates for this Medal, which will be awarded to a member of the Society, under the age of forty, for distinguished research in the Mathematical Sciences.

For further information, please contact (preferably by email) the Chair of the 2014 Medal Committee, Professor K.A. Smith-Miles, School of Mathematical Sciences, Monash University, PO Box 28M, Victoria 3800 (kate.smith-miles@monash.edu). Nominations should be received by 30 May 2014.

The other three members of the 2014 Medal Committee are Professor J.A. Filar (Outgoing Chair), Professor N.C. Wormald (Incoming Chair) and Dr L. Ward (one year).

See <http://www.austms.org.au/AMSInfo/medal.html> for a list of past AustMS Medal winners.

Rules for the Australian Mathematical Society Medal

1. There shall be a Medal known as 'The Australian Mathematical Society Medal'.
2.
 - (i) This will be awarded annually to a Member of the Society, under the age of 40 on 1st January of the year in which the Medal is awarded, for distinguished research in the Mathematical Sciences. The AustMS Medal Committee may, in cases where there have been significant interruptions to a mathematical career, waive this age limit by normally up to five years.
 - (ii) A significant proportion of the research work should have been carried out in Australia.
 - (iii) In order to be eligible, a nominee for the Medal has to have been a member of the Society for the calendar year preceding the year of the award; back dating of membership to the previous year is not acceptable.
3. The award will be approved by the President on behalf of the Council of the Society on the recommendation of a Selection Committee appointed by the Council.
4. The Selection Committee shall consist of three persons each appointed for a period of three years and known as 'Incoming Chair', 'Chair' and 'Outgoing Chair' respectively, together with a fourth person appointed each year for one year only.
5. The Selection Committee will consult with appropriate assessors.
6. The award of the Medal shall be recorded in one of the Society's Journals along with the citation and photograph.

7. The Selection Committee shall also prepare an additional citation in a form suitable for newspaper publication. This is to be embargoed until the Medal winner has been announced to the Society.
8. One Medal shall be awarded each year, unless either no one of sufficient merit is found, in which case no Medal shall be awarded; or there is more than one candidate of equal (and sufficient) merit, in which case the committee can recommend the award of at most two Medals.

Nominations sought for the 2014 George Szekeres Medal

The Medal Committee for the 2014 George Szekeres Medal is now seeking nominations and recommendations for possible candidates for this Medal. The George Szekeres Medal is awarded for outstanding research achievement for work done substantially in Australia. It is awarded only in even-numbered years.

Nominations, to be sent to the Committee Chair, should include: (a) an extended citation, not more than two pages in length, arguing the case for awarding the Medal to the nominee; (b) a shorter citation, of not more than 100 words, which may be used to report the candidate's achievements in the event that the nomination is successful; (c) a full list of publications of the candidate, with the most significant (up to a maximum of 20) marked by an asterisk; (d) a curriculum vitae of the candidate's professional career, highlighting any achievements which add support to the nomination; and (e) the names of between three and six suitable referees, along with a brief statement as to their appropriateness.

Nominations close on 30 May 2014.

For further information, please contact (preferably by email) the Chair of the 2014 George Szekeres Medal Committee, Professor J.H. Rubinstein (Rubin@ms.unimelb.edu.au).

Other members of the 2014 George Szekeres Medal Committee are Professor A.J. Guttmann (Outgoing Chair), Professor P.G. Hall (Incoming Chair) and Professor A.L. Carey.

See <http://www.austms.org.au/The+George+Szekeres+Medal> for a list of past winners of the Medal.

Rules for the George Szekeres Medal of the AustMS

- Rule 1. The award is for a mathematical scientist who is a member of the Australian Mathematical Society and normally resident in Australia.
- Rule 2. The medal may, in exceptional circumstances, be shared by at most two candidates.
- Rule 3. The Medal is awarded every two years.
- Rule 4. (i) The award is for a sustained outstanding contribution to research in the mathematical sciences. The candidate should have been resident in Australia when the bulk of the work was completed.

- (ii) The successful candidate will have an excellent record of promoting and supporting the discipline, through activities such as extensive graduate student supervision, outstanding contributions to leadership in the Australian Mathematical Society, or other activities which have materially promoted the mathematical sciences discipline within Australia.
- Rule 5.
- (i) The George Szekeres Medal can be awarded to a recipient of the Australian Mathematical Society Medal, provided that the sustained outstanding contribution to research in Rule 4(i) is subsequent to the work for which the Australian Mathematical Society Medal was awarded.
 - (ii) The George Szekeres Medal cannot be awarded to the same person on more than one occasion.

Nominations sought for the 2014 Gavin Brown Prize

The 2014 Gavin Brown Prize Selection Committee is now seeking nominations and recommendations for possible candidates for this prize, to be awarded for an outstanding and innovative piece of research in the mathematical sciences published by a Member or Members of the Society. The award will be for a single article, monograph or book consisting of original research, and published in the nine calendar years preceding the year of the award.

To be eligible for the award of the Gavin Brown Prize, a publication must have at least one author who meets the following conditions:

- (i) he/she must be a member of the Society, and must have been a member of the Society for the calendar year at the time of publication of the paper (back-dating of membership is not allowed);
- (ii) he/she must be normally resident in Australia, and must have been normally resident in Australia at the time when the research was carried out.

In the case of publications with multiple authors, the prize will be shared by all authors. The existence of authors who do not meet the conditions above will not preclude this award, although the Selection Committee may take it into account in assessing the achievement of the author(s) who do meet those conditions.

The Selection Committee may deem a publication ineligible if an author has previously received an award from the Australian Mathematical Society for a body of research which included the publication in question.

A publication may be nominated for the award by any member of the Society who is not an author of that publication.

Nominators should provide a brief (1–2 pages) summary of what makes the nominated publication important and original, with appropriate references to prior or subsequent work in the field. These should be sent by email to the Chair of the selection committee, and all nominations should be received via email by 30 May 2014.

The Selection Committee may consult with appropriate external assessors.

For further information, please contact by email, the Chair of the 2014 Gavin Brown Prize Selection Committee, Professor N.S. Trudinger, Centre for Mathematics and its Applications, Australian National University, ACT 0200 (Neil.Trudinger@anu.edu.au).

The other members of the 2014 AustMS Gavin Brown Prize Selection Committee are

Outgoing Chair: Professor P.G. Hall
Incoming Chair: Professor J.M. Borwein
One-year member: Dr C.M. O'Keefe.

Special Interest Meetings

Applications are now considered twice a year, at the start of June and the start of December. The next two closing dates are 4 December 2013 and 6 June 2014. Applications are now required at least three months in advance of the meeting rather than at least six months.

If funding is being sought from both AustMS and AMSI, a single application should be made at <http://www.amsi.org.au/component/content/article/881>.

If funding is not being sought from AMSI, please use the application form available at <http://www.austms.org.au/Special+Interest+Meetings> and send it to the secretary, Associate Professor Peter Stacey, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University, Victoria 3086 (Secretary@austms.org.au).

News from the Annual General Meeting

The Society's 57th Annual Meeting was held recently at the University of Sydney. The Director, Associate Professor Laurentiu Paunescu, his team of local organisers and the Program Committee, led by the Vice-President (Annual Conferences), were responsible for a very successful conference.

The following matters from the meeting are provided here for the information of those who could not attend. The draft minutes of the AGM will be placed in the members' section of the Society's website.

- (1) Council has conferred Honorary Membership of the Society on Professor C.E. Praeger AM FAA FAustMS, in recognition of her outstanding work for the Society and for mathematics in Australia, Professor J.H. Rubinstein FAA FAustMS, in recognition of his outstanding work for the Society and for mathematics in Australia and Dr A.A.T. Howe, in recognition of his outstanding work for the Society as Treasurer for 20 years.
- (2) The Australian Mathematical Society Medal for 2013 was awarded to Dr Craig Westerland of the University of Melbourne.
- (4) The Gavin Brown Prize for 2013 was not awarded. Following recommendations from the Prize Committees for 2011, 2012 and 2013, Council resolved to change the rules for the Gavin Brown Prize so that articles are eligible

if they are published in the nine calendar years preceding the year of award rather than the preceding six years. It also resolved that, henceforth, in each year the prize will be for publications in any area of the mathematical sciences. The membership of the Prize Committee will therefore be changed to mirror that of the Society's two Medal Committees.

- (5) The 2013 B.H. Neumann Prize was awarded to Adrian Dudek of the Australian National University for his talk entitled 'Primes in short intervals'. Five student talks were given honourable mentions. These were talks by Alex Amenta (Australian National University), Stephen McCormick (Monash University), John Nakhoul (University of Sydney), Matthew Tam (University of Newcastle) and TriThang Tran (University of Melbourne).
- (6) The Early Career Workshop, organised by Natalie Thamwattana, Andrew Francis and Norman Do on 28–29 September, was a great success. Next year there will be two workshops, one in February immediately following the ANZIAM meeting in Rotorua, New Zealand and the other in December preceding the Society's meeting in Melbourne. To even out gaps between workshops, there will henceforth be two workshops in even years and a short workshop, not requiring overnight accommodation, in odd years.
- (7) It was confirmed that the fifty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at the University of Melbourne from Monday 8 December to Friday 12 December 2014, jointly with the New Zealand Mathematical Society as the 8th Australia-New Zealand Mathematics Convention, with Associate Professor P.T. Norbury as Director.
It was provisionally determined that the fifty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at Flinders University from Monday 28 September to Thursday 1 October 2015 with Associate Professor V. Ejov as Director.
- (8) Members at the Annual General Meeting supported moving the Society's annual conference to early December from 2016 and seeking to increase the number of joint meetings (for example with ANZIAM, with the Combinatorial Mathematics Society of Australasia and with foreign mathematical societies).
- (9) Following the constitutional changes approved by members, Council resolved to remove the restriction that free membership of the Society would be available to undergraduate students only in exceptional circumstances.
- (10) Council revisited its decision, made last year, to discontinue the Society's Program Review Scheme and decided to collaborate with AMSI in the development of a revised scheme.
- (11) Council established a working party, chaired by the President, to review the funding of Special Interest Groups and Divisions.
- (12) Council received a request from the ANZAMP Special Interest Group to become a Division of the Society. Council decided that a threshold of roughly 80 Ordinary Members of the Society should be a requirement for the establishment of a Division and further decided that the membership requirements of any other Divisions should match those of ANZIAM. ANZIAM currently requires that its members should be members of the Society unless they are

not normally resident in Australia, in which case they should be members of a society with which the Society maintains a reciprocity agreement. It was noted that ANZIAM is considering requiring its non-resident members to be reciprocal members of the Society and it was agreed that if Council approves this change then it will apply to all Divisions.

- (13) Council received a request from the Women in Mathematics Special Interest Group to receive annual funding to establish Travel Grants for Women in Mathematics and Grants for Carers. It approved initial annual funding of \$6400 for the first of these and \$1600 for the second.

The Special Interest Group also flagged a proposal to seek funding from the Society, AMSI and relevant universities to establish an annual Advocate for Women in Mathematics, to give talks and facilitate forums related to mathematics in three cities around Australia. Council agreed in principle to contribute an annual amount of \$2000 to such a scheme but deferred a final decision until it receives a detailed scope and full budget.

- (14) Following a recommendation from Steering Committee, Council established a working party to seek ways of extending our membership base, including improving the retention of members.
- (15) To avoid requiring a service from meeting organisers and thus attracting GST, Council changed some of its conference support rules from rules to requests. It was also decided to require applications at least three months before the meeting rather than at least six months.
- (16) AMPAI resolved that, for a fee to be set by AMPAI after consultation with CUP, the author of any article to be published in the Society's journals be offered the choice to make the article freely available. This option would not be offered to an author of an article until it had been accepted for publication.

Amendments to the Consitution

In a postal ballot conducted on 2 September 2013, members agreed to change paragraphs 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 25, 33, 35, 37, 40, 45, 46, 47, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 65, 66, 67, 68, 71, 72, 74, 76, 77, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 90 and 92 of the Society's Constitution. There were 308 validated votes of which 301 were in favour of the amendments, 6 were against and 1 was informal.

Peter Stacey
AustMS Secretary
Email: P.Stacey@latrobe.edu.au



Peter Stacey joined La Trobe as a lecturer in 1975 and retired as an associate professor at the end of 2008. Retirement has enabled him to spend more time with his family while continuing with some research and some work on secondary school education. He took over as secretary of the Society at the start of 2010.