

EDITORIAL

In the past, when the Bulletin was called the Newsletter, it carried a page of news, mainly concerning the comings and goings of mathematical personnel. Colm Mulcahy told us that these reports were very useful to him in his search for facts for his Archive of Irish Mathematics. He suggested that we reinstate the item on a regular basis, and this seems a good idea. So I now invite the Irish schools to contribute news. Typically, we expect each item to consist of one or two sentences, and suitable material would be new appointments and sabbatical visitors. It would be best if reports were channeled through the local representatives, but to begin with we do not want to be unduly restrictive. Please send reports to <mailto://ims.bulletin+news@gmail.com>.

The European Women in Mathematics association (EWM) was founded in 1986, and has several hundred members and coordinators in 33 European countries. Every other year, the EWM holds a general meeting and a summer school. A newsletter is published twice a year, the EWM has an e-mail network EWM-ALL, a facebook group and a website: <https://www.europeanwomeninmaths.org/>. The EWM aims to: encourage women to study mathematics, support women in their careers, and give prominence and visibility to women mathematicians. Moreover, the EWM awards early-career grants, offers mentoring for members in need of guidance regarding their mathematical career, and balancing career and family, and provides partial financial support for national meetings.

As promised in the last issue, the Bulletin's page layout has been changed, reducing the number of pages needed for a given amount of content, and hence reducing the cost to members of printing material. As before, to facilitate members who might wish to print the whole issue, the website will carry a pdf file of the whole Bulletin 83, in addition to the usual pdf files of the individual articles. As a further convenience (which may suit some Departments and Libraries), a printed and bound copy of this Bulletin may be ordered online on a print-on-demand basis¹.

This year's IMS September meeting will be held in NUI Galway, from Thursday September 5 to Friday September 6, 2019. Please make a note in your diaries. The 2-day programme will consist of a number of invited talks by speakers from Ireland and abroad. The aim of the meeting is to reflect the diversity of the mathematical community in Ireland and the scientific interests of the members of the IMS. All are welcome to attend. Further details will be announced soon. The organising committee comprises Angela Carnevale, Michel Destrade, Götz Pfeiffer and Rachel Quinlan.

The directed graph implicit in the database of the Mathematics Genealogy project <https://www.genealogy.math.ndsu.nodak.edu> has about 200,000 nodes, and one component includes about nine-tenths of the whole. It is probable that all doctorate-holding IMS members belong to this component. The earliest-dated root of this main component is, at present, one Sharaf al-Din al-Tusi, who has over 159,000 descendents in the graph. His scientific grandson, Nasir al-Din al-Tusi assembled a famous set of astronomical tables for the Il-Khan, a grandson of Genghiz Khan. These were passed on by his student Shams ad-Din al-Bukhari to the greek bishop Gregory Chioniadis, and thus found their way into Byzantium, and thence through a chain of students to

¹Go to www.lulu.com and search for *Irish Mathematical Society Bulletin*.

Verona, then to Padua and Nicholas Copernicus. Copernicus has over 156,000 descendants in the genealogy graph, so one may also say that most living mathematicians are his descendants. In this issue, we carry an article with a “tale of two cities” (Padua and Uppsala), that tells the interesting story of how the burial-place of Copernicus was identified.

We also publish, *inter alia*, a short, provocative article by Bernard Beuzamy, and an obituary article on Richard Timoney, who is greatly missed.

Links for Postgraduate Study

The following are the links provided by Irish Schools for prospective research students in Mathematics:

DCU: <mailto://maths@dcu.ie>

DIT: <mailto://chris.hills@dit.ie>

NUIG: <mailto://james.cruickshank@nuigalway.ie>

MU: <mailto://mathsstatspg@mu.ie>

QUB: http://www.qub.ac.uk/puremaths/Funded_PG_2016.html

TCD: <http://www.maths.tcd.ie/postgraduate/>

UCC: <http://www.ucc.ie/en/matsci/postgraduate/>

UCD: <mailto://nuria.garcia@ucd.ie>

UL: <mailto://sarah.mitchell@ul.ie>

UU: <http://www.compeng.ulster.ac.uk/rgs/>

The remaining schools with Ph.D. programmes in Mathematics are invited to send their preferred link to the editor. All links are live, and hence may be accessed by a click, when read in a suitable pdf reader.

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