

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the Irish Mathematical Society**
Annual General Meeting
5th September 2006

The Irish Mathematical Society held its Annual General Meeting from 16:10 to 17:15 on Tuesday 5th September at IT Tralee. There were 16 members present at the meeting.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of September 2005 were approved and signed.

2. Matters arising

All matters arising were discussed under the headings below.

3. Correspondence

There were 4 items of correspondence:

- (i) A letter from Mr Eoin Gill of CALMAST (WIT) informing the society that he is organising a Maths Week from 16 to 20 October and inviting the society to become involved. Members should contact Mr Gill for more details. The committee will contact Mr Gill to ensure that events are well advertised.
- (ii) A request for funding from the UCC Mathematical Society. It was decided that the IMS does not have sufficient funds to support student societies.
- (iii) A letter from Mr Oliver Murphy to the President, informing him that a group of Applied Mathematics teachers met recently and intend to form an association. They also want to change the Applied Mathematics syllabus at Leaving Cert. Any member interested in this initiative should contact the President.
- (iv) A call for nominations for EMS prizes for young mathematicians.

4. Membership Applications

Dane Flannery, Kwee Hoe Lim, Dmitrii Rachinskii, Cliona Golden, Christopher Hills, Veronika Chrastinova, Shane Dowdall, and Alexander Belton were approved as ordinary members.

5. President's Report

The President reported on issues that have arisen this year. The full text of his report can be found on

<http://www.spd.dcu.ie/moreilly/ims.htm>

R. Timoney congratulated M. O Reilly on his work as president.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented his report for 2005. It shows a shortfall of 159.86 €. The report was approved and the Treasurer was thanked.

7. The Bulletin

The Editor reported that Volume 57 is ready and is being distributed. He commented on two new initiatives: the inclusion of reports on IMS funded conferences; the inclusion of abstracts of PhD theses written at Irish Universities. The Editor was thanked for his terrific work. It was decided that abstracts of the talks at the September meeting should be published in the Bulletin.

8. Link with Société Mathématique de France

The President has been in contact with Professeur Marie-Francoise Roy, the President of the SMF. She has written an article on the SMF which appeared in the current edition of the Bulletin and an article on the IMS will shortly appear in the Gazette des Mathématiciens. The President will form a small subcommittee to liaise with the SMF.

9. Rule Change

The committee recommended that rule 9 of the Rules of the IMS be changed from

No person shall serve on the Committee for more than three terms consecutively. No President shall hold office for two consecutive terms.

to

No person shall serve on the Committee for more than three terms consecutively with the following exceptions:

(a) The Treasurer and Secretary may serve on the Committee for seven consecutive years if the last year of their office is the seventh one.

(b) The President may serve on the Committee for eight consecutive years if he or she is elected as such after six years of service on the Committee. No President shall hold office for two consecutive terms.

The change was proposed by M. O Reilly and seconded by E. Gath. The change was passed unanimously.

10. Election to Committee

The following were elected unopposed to the committee:

| Committee Member | Proposer | Secunder |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| R. Higgs (President) | M. O Reilly | G. Lessells |
| J. Cruickshank (Vice-President) | M. O Reilly | G. Lessells |
| R. Timoney | M. O Reilly | J. Cruickshank |
| S. Breen | M. O Reilly | D. Wraith |
| S. O'Rourke | M. O Reilly | J. Cruickshank |

As editor, M. Mathieu will be invited to committee meetings. D. Armitage and M. O Reilly will be co-opted for one year. The total number of years each existing member will have been on the committee as of 31 December 2006 will be: M. O Reilly (5), D. Wraith (5), A. O'Shea (5), D. Armitage (4), D. Gilbert (6), S. Dineen (6), P. Kirwan (6), T. Carroll (3), J. Cruickshank (4), N. O'Sullivan (3), R. Timoney (2), R. Higgs (2), N. Kopteva (1), B. Guilfoyle (1).

The following will then have one more year of office: A. O'Shea (Secretary), D. Wraith (Treasurer), T. Carroll, N. O'Sullivan, N. Kopteva, B. Guilfoyle.

R. Higgs drew attention to the astounding amount of work M. O Reilly has done during his term of office. A vote of thanks to the President was passed.

11. Research Issues

The SFI Mathematics Initiative was discussed at an Open Forum the day before the Annual General Meeting following short presentations from the two successful groups, the Claude Shannon Institute and the Mathematics Applications Consortium for Science and Industry.

12. Education Issues

The committee will contact the Department of Education regarding the provision of Higher Level Mathematics in schools at Leaving Certificate.

There was a presentation on the Strategic Innovation Fund by J. Cleary at the Open Forum.

The President will form a subcommittee on Service Teaching. Volunteers should contact him.

A short note describing the NCCA review of Mathematics in post-primary education was circulated. It was suggested that the Applied Mathematics course could be reformed to include material other than mechanics and that the new course might be called Further Maths. A subcommittee was formed to look at the issues raised by the NCCA review as well as bonus points for Mathematics and Foundation Level Mathematics. The subcommittee consists of J. Cleary, B. Nolan, M. O'Reilly, D. Wraith and A. O'Shea.

13. Public Image Issues

Maths Week was discussed under correspondence. The President took part in a radio programme and had a letter published in The Irish Times after the announcement of the Leaving Certificate results.

14. IMO

J. Cruickshank reported that the Irish team did well in IMO 2006. R. Quinlan was team leader and will prepare a report. The Fergus Gaines cup will be presented to Galin Ganchev on 16 November. There has been no progress on Ireland's bid to host the IMO. The President congratulated the Olympiad trainers and the team.

R. Quinlan is organising a contest in mathematical problem-solving for second level students to take place during Maths Week.

15. Future Conferences and Meetings

The 2007 meeting will be held in UCD on the 3rd and 4th of September. There were suggestions that the 2008 meeting be held in Dublin Institute of Technology or Cork Institute of Technology. A decision will be made soon. The 2009 meeting will be a joint meeting with the BMC in Galway and will be held at Easter. The DIAS Winter Symposium will take place on the 14th and 15th of December. The next general meeting will be held in UCD in 2007.

11. Any Other Business

The President thanked the committee and the executive for their work during his term of office.

Ann O'Shea,
NUI Maynooth

These minutes still need to be approved by the next AGM.