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MITACS

For Immediate Release

Canada plays host to China's leading mathematicians

Vancouver, BC August 14, 2001. Aimed at deepening research ties between Canada and China, the **2001 Canada-China Mathematics Congress** will be held from **August 20 - 23, 2001**, on the University of British Columbia campus in Vancouver.

Sponsored by the Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems network, The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences, The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences, The Centre de recherches mathématiques, and The 3x3 Canada-China Initiative, the Congress features sessions on: Algebra and Number Theory, Mathematical Physics and Partial Differential Equations, Probability and Statistics, Wavelets and their applications, Computational, Industrial and Applied Analysis, Geometry/Topology, Operator Theory/ Functional Analysis, Mathematical Finance, ODE and Dynamical Systems.

This biennial event is an opportunity for Canadian and Chinese mathematicians to discuss recent findings and establish new collaborations. Attending multi-disciplinary sessions and problem solving in a teamwork atmosphere will enable future collaborative research projects between Canada and China. The benefits to both countries are numerous: more collaborative research efforts, additional opportunities for the training of students and post-doctoral fellows, the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and the strengthening of socio-economic ties.

More than 75 Chinese and 100 Canadian mathematical scientists are expected to attend the Congress this year. An integral part of the Chinese delegation are key academic and government officials including: Zhi Xing Hou, President of Nankai University and Director of the Mathematical Centre of Chinese Education Ministry, Wang Jie, Vice Director of Chinese Nature Scientific Foundation, Zhiming Ma, President of the Mathematical Society of China, L.Z. Peng, Secretary of the Mathematical Society of China, and K.C. Chang, Director of the Mathematical Centre of Chinese Education Ministry.

Director of The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Nassif Ghoussoub explains, "Faced with the challenges of the 21st century, a collaborative effort with the prominent Chinese mathematical community will greatly enhance the position of both countries as intellectual and scientific powers."

Dr. Arvind Gupta, Scientific Director of MITACS, adds, "High-level research requires collaborating with the best from around the world. This Congress provides an excellent networking opportunity for both Canadian and Chinese scientists and builds on MITACS' effort to reach out to the international community."

../2

MEDIA

Media are welcomed to attend the event free of charge. For a look at the event program, please refer to the following website: http://www.pims.math.ca/science/2001/canada-china/ or write: Canada-China Math 2001, PIMS, 1933 West Mall, 200-220 West Mall Annex, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z2

About MITACS

MITACS is a federally-funded Network of Centres of Excellence in the mathematical sciences. Operating as a national framework in which scientists and private sector organizations collaborate to solve large-scale problems, MITACS represents a joint initiative by three of Canada's mathematical institutes: Le Centre de recherches mathématiques, The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences and The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences. Since October 1998, MITACS has teamed more than 230 scientists and 400 students with 75 industrial partners to work in tandem on specific research projects within five key areas of the Canadian economy: biomedical, industrial/ commercial, information technology, trading/ finance, and manufacturing. Among its scientific investigators, MITACS counts 16 Royal Society Fellows, 13 Chair Holders, 6 Steacie and Killam prizewinners, and many recipients of other major prizes.

About PIMS

The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) promotes all aspects of the mathematical sciences by stimulating, coordinating and facilitating the activities of the mathematical scientists in Western Canada, and by linking them more closely with mathematical scientists in the rest of Canada and the world. This mission is achieved by: promoting research in all areas encompassed by the mathematics sciences; initiating collaborations and strengthening ties between the mathematical scientists in the academic community and those in the industrial, business and government sectors; training highly qualified personnel for academic and industrial employment; and developing new technologies to support research, communication and training in the mathematical sciences.

Building on the strength and vitality of its programmes, PIMS is able to serve the mathematical sciences community as a catalyst in other areas of great importance: communication and dissemination of mathematical ideas through public outreach, mathematical education and training at all school levels; and the creation of strong mathematical partnerships within Canada and organizations in other countries, with a focus on the nations of the Pacific Rim.

../3

About Fields

Founded in 1992, The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences is a centre for mathematical research activity – located at the University of Toronto - a place where mathematicians from Canada and abroad, from business, industry and financial institutions, can come together to carry out research and formulate problems of mutual interest. Its mission is to provide a supportive and stimulating environment for mathematics through innovation, education and collaboration between professional mathematicians. The Fields Institute promotes mathematical activity in Canada and helps to expand the application of mathematics in modern society.

About CRM

The Centre de recherches mathématiques (CRM) of the Université de Montréal was founded in 1968. Currently under the direction of professor Jacques Hurtubise, the CRM's mandate is to serve as a national centre for fundamental research in mathematics and its applications. The CRM's scientific personnel include approximately twenty regular members, numerous associate members based at other institutions, and post-doctoral fellows. The CRM plays a pivotal role in training young researchers by organizing workshops with professional mathematicians from the academic and industrial sectors. The CRM is an essential network of members who benefit from scientific exchange and collaborative projects.

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