

IRISH MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

President's Report 2009

I would like to express the Society's gratitude to my predecessor, Dr. Russell Higgs, for the outstanding work that he did during his term of office. He represented the Society very ably and left it in a very healthy state.

The Society has been involved in several important events over the last year. Most prominently perhaps, in April at NUI Galway, we hosted our annual conference in conjunction with the annual meeting of the British Mathematical Colloquium. This event was a great success, and I would like to pay tribute to the three main local organisers, Professor Ted Hurley, Dr James Ward and Dr Claas Röver. Of course many others helped out in making this event happen and I think it is safe to say that it projected a very positive image of the Society to our colleagues in the UK and elsewhere.

The Fergus Gaines trophy is presented by the Society annually to the top performer in the Irish Mathematical Olympiad. This year the award will go to Jack McKenna of Newbridge College, Kildare. Society members, led by Dr Bernd Kreussler of Mary Immaculate College, also oversaw the participation of Ireland in the International Mathematical Olympiad which took place in Bremen, Germany during the month of July. The IMS would like to pay tribute to all its members who help to promote mathematics among our second level students.

In the world of research mathematics, the Society continues to offer sponsorship to members that are organising mathematical conferences in Ireland. This past year we supported the following events.

- International Workshop on Multi-Rate Processes and Hysteresis, UCC, 31 March–5 April 2008
- Complex Function Theory Meeting (in honour of Brian Twomey), UCC, 18 April 2008
- Operator Theory and Operator Algebras (in memory of Professor Gerard Murphy), UCC, 7–9 May 2008
- Third Conference on Mathematics Service Teaching, WIT, 26–27 May 2008
- 23rd British Topology Meeting, QUB, 25–27 August 2008
- Instructional Workshop on Subfactors and Planar Algebras, QUB, 26–28 August 2008.

Thanks to Dr Richard Timoney for agreeing to represent the Society on the newly formed RIA committee for the mathematical sciences. Dr Martin Mathieu has indicated that he will step down as editor of the Bulletin at the end of 2010 — we are currently seeking out a suitable candidate to replace him. I would like to thank Martin for his tremendous contribution to the Society and to the Irish mathematical community as editor over the last 9 years.

As of next year, the Society will return to the normal practice of holding its AGM at the September conference. Next year's September conference will take place in DIT. We have also agreed that the 2011 September meeting will take place in UL and the 2012 September meeting will take place in IT Tallaght.

James Cruickshank
President of the Irish Mathematical Society
11th September 2009