

COMMITTEE ON ELECTRONIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Terms of Reference

August 2002

At its 70th session on August 16, 2002, in Shanghai the International Mathematical Union (IMU) Executive Committee has reviewed the activities of its "Committee on Electronic Information and Communication" (CEIC) and decided to re-establish CEIC for a second term with the following revised terms of reference:

- a) The CEIC is a standing committee of the Executive Committee (EC) of the IMU, reviewed every four years by the EC at its meeting preceding that of the GA. Members are appointed for four year terms by procedures similar to those for IMU Commissions. The EC appoints one of its members to serve on the CEIC.
- b) The CEIC may meet as necessary in each four year period to review the development of Electronic Information and Communication as it impacts the international mathematical community, and is asked to submit an annual report to the EC.
- c) The CEIC may organize or sponsor international meetings or forums to bring together representatives of all interested parties, including societies, publishers, libraries, researchers, and sister disciplines. It may publish, electronically or on paper, and otherwise disseminate proceedings, reviews of recent developments, and technical surveys for the use of the mathematical community.
- d) The CEIC may suggest international standards ('best practice recommendations') on issues related to electronic communication. Such recommendations should be reviewed by the EC and, if approved, may be published and promoted in the name of the IMU.
- e) The CEIC is expected to continue its previous efforts such as the promotion and organization of Math-Net and related activities that make mathematics related material electronically available. In carrying out its activities, CEIC is asked to continue soliciting the views of the mathematical community through the CEIC and the Math-Net homepages. The CEIC is asked to address, in its second 4-year term, the following issues with special emphasis.
- f) The CEIC is requested to enhance its advisory role with the aim - to make the issues involved generally understood, - to define the relevant needs of our discipline clearly, - to shape the role the mathematical community needs to play, and - to guide the practice of scholarly communication and publication.
- g) The CEIC is asked to take an active part in any development of a Digital Mathematics Library, to further address copyright and archiving issues, journal licensing models, and cost models for journal production and acquisition.
- h) The CEIC is requested to draft a proposal, to be decided upon by the EC in 2006, concerning its future status. The proposal should include issues such as CEIC's institutionalization, membership, long term financing, and sustainability of the various current CEIC efforts and activities.