



Report of the ICHM to the IMU 2018-2022

June Barrow-Green (Chair)

From April 2018 to April 2022, the International Commission for the History of Mathematics (ICHM) has continued to pursue its dual aims of encouraging the study of the history of mathematics and of promoting a high level of historically and mathematically sophisticated scholarship in the field internationally. It has done so in the following ways:

Meetings of the Executive Committee (EC) of the ICHM

The EC meets at least four times yearly via e-mail to discuss matters of interest to the international history of mathematics community. Among the business discussed and the issues considered over the four-year period from 2018 to April 2022 were:

the implementation of an ICHM early career grant scheme; nominations to the Council of the Division of History of Science of the International Union of History of Philosophy of Science and Technology; the archives of the Institut Mittag-Leffler; the renewal and election of new officers and members of the Executive Council of the ICHM, as well as the appointment of national representatives to the ICHM; the approval each year of conferences and symposia for ICHM co-sponsorship (see below); the organization of symposia for the 26th ICHSTM (2020-2021); consideration and discussion of annual reports submitted by the Treasurer of the ICHM and the consideration and discussion of annual reports submitted by the editors of the ICHM's journal *Historia Mathematica*; the editorial transition of *Historia Mathematica*; the selection of the tenth Kenneth O. May Medallists and the selection of the fourth Montucla Prize winners (2020-21); symposium on history of mathematics for the 2022 ICM; the migration of the ICHM bank account from Denmark to Germany.

Conferences /Symposia/ Congresses

From 2018 to 2022, the ICHM contributed to, organized, or co-sponsored conferences and symposia internationally, some of which had to be moved online due to the COVID pandemic:

32nd Novembertagung on the History and Philosophy of Mathematics 'Mathematics in Times of Crisis' (online, November 18–20, 2021)

Three symposia on the History of Mathematics at the 26th International Congress of History of Science, and Technology (ICHST), online, July 25–31, 2021)

- *Evolution of Mathematics in China: Major Figures, Anonymous Contributors, and the Giants Among Them*
- *Constructing interfaces between mathematical and physical conceptions and methods*
- *Collaborations and Rivalries in the History of Mathematics*



31st Novembertagung on the History and Philosophy of Mathematics (online, November 26–28, 2020)

Special Sessions at the annual joint meetings of the American Mathematical Society and Mathematical Association of America (USA) (2019, 2020)

30th Novembertagung on the History and Philosophy of Mathematics (Strasbourg, France, October 31–November 2, 2019)

29th Novembertagung on the History of Mathematics (Seville, Spain, November 28–30, 2018)

Mathematical Communities in the Reconstruction after the Great War (1918–1928) (Luminy, France, November 12–16, 2018).

ICHM Symposium on the History of Mathematics at the 2018 ICM (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 6, 2018)

Reports on these conferences may be found on the ICHM website at
<https://www.mathunion.org/ichm/reports/activity-reports>

Projects

1. The ICHM mounted and continues to maintain a webpage of its activities and of matters of interest to historians of mathematics internationally. See the ICHM website:
<https://www.mathunion.org/ichm>
2. The ICHM created and maintains an e-mail list of historians of mathematics internationally designed to inform colleagues in a timely manner of the ICHM's activities.
3. The ICHM continues actively to solicit and to co-sponsor special sessions and conferences internationally.
4. The ICHM has a grant scheme for early career scholars for which it actively solicits applications.

Publications

Historia Mathematica is the official journal of the ICHM. It appears four times annually and publishes roughly 525 pages of original research in the history of mathematics from all times and cultures. From 2018 to 2021, it was edited by Reinhard Siegmund-Schultze (Norway) and Nathan Sidoli (Japan). From 2021 has been edited by Antoni Malet (Spain) and Nathan Sidoli (Japan). It is published by Elsevier Science.

Medals and Prizes

The **Kenneth O. May Prize** is awarded every four years to a historian or historians in recognition of distinguished contributions to the history of mathematics. The Prize is administered by the ICHM.



Kenneth Ownsworth May (1915-1977) was a distinguished American mathematician and historian of mathematics who spent the last ten years of his career at the University of Toronto. The first May prize was awarded in 1989; to date there have been 12 winners. The recipient of the Prize also receives the May Medal, a bronze medallion cast from a design created by the Canadian sculptor Salius Jaskus. A full list of past winners and citations for these awards may be found on the website of the ICHM (<https://www.mathunion.org/ichm/prizes/kenneth-o-may-prize-history-mathematics>).

The two winners of the May Prize for 2021 were Sonja Brentjes and Christine Proust. They will be presenting prize lectures at the 2022 ICM.

For the full citations that accompanied the awarding of the May Prize to Professor Brentjes and Professor Proust, see June Barrow-Green, "Awarding of the May Prizes for 2021" *Historia Mathematica* 56 (2021): 1–3.

The **Montucla Prize** is an honour established in 2009 by ICHM to recognize research in the history of mathematics. The prize is awarded every four years to the author of the best article published by an early career scholar in *Historia Mathematica* in the four years preceding the International Congress of History of Science and Technology.

The prize is named after the great eighteenth-century historian of mathematical science Etienne Montucla, one of the founders of the modern discipline of the history of mathematics. A full list of past winners and citations for these awards may be found on the website of the ICHM (<https://www.mathunion.org/ichm/prizes/ichm-montucla-prize>)

The Montucla Prize for 2021 was shared by two scholars and awarded jointly to:

François Lê for "'Are the *genre* and the *Geschlecht* one and the same number?' An inquiry into Alfred Clebsch's *Geschlecht*", *Historia Mathematica* 53 (2020): 71–107.

Brigitte Stenhouse for "Mary Somerville's early contributions to the circulation of the differential calculus" *Historia Mathematica* 51 (2020): 1–25.

For the full citations that accompanied the awarding of the Montucla Prize to Dr Lê and Dr Stenhouse, see "Awarding the Montucla Prize for 2021" *Historia Mathematica* 56 (2021): 4–5.

The members of the EC of the ICHM

From July 2017 to July 2021, the ICHM Vice-Chair was Niccolò Guicciardini (Italy). From January 2010 to June 2019, the ICHM Treasurer was Henrik Sørensen (Denmark).

In April 2019 a representative of the History and Pedagogy of Mathematics Study Group (HPM), an affiliate of ICMI, was invited to join the ICHM-EC as a 'listening member'. From April 2019 to July 2021, the HPM listening member was Kathleen Clark (USA).



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS (ICHM)

In February 2018 Gang Tian was appointed by the IMU to act as a liaison between the IMU and ICHM. Subsequently Gang Tian joined the ICHM-EC mailing list.

The EC's current members are: June Barrow-Green (United Kingdom), Chair; Clemency Montelle (New Zealand), Vice Chair; Sloan Despeaux (USA), Secretary; Martina Schneider (Germany), Treasurer; Michela Malpangotto (France); S. Mohammad Mosaffari (Iran); Volker Remmert (Germany); Adrian Rice (USA); Clara H Sánchez (Columbia); Galina Sinkevich (Russia); GUO Shirong (China). Ex officio members are: Craig Fraser (Canada), Antoni Malet (Spain), Nathan Sidoli (Japan). Listening member: Snezana Lawrence (UK). The two IMU members are: Isobel Falconer (UK) and Catherine Goldstein (France).

For a list of the current ICHM national members, see
<https://www.mathunion.org/ichm/about-us/members>
or the inside cover of any recent issue of *Historia Mathematica*.

Financial Report (see over)



Financial Report

Prepared by Martina Schneider (Treasurer since 2019)

22 May 2022

01 January 2018 to 22 May 2022

Balance per 01 January 2018

Salling Bank 7890 9454 775	USD	36,059.91
Salling Bank 7890 9454 783	EUR	2,275.75
Salling Bank 7890 3402 887	DKK	604.82

Income	USD	EUR	DKK
Internal transfer (2018-2022)	-48,174.26	2,366.97	10,687.34
Grants	15,000.00	5,020.57	0.00
IUHPST support	0.00	4,411.88	10,892.78
Conference returns	0.00	576.34	0.00
Total	-33,174.26	12,375.76	21,580.12

Expenses	USD	EUR	DKK
Conference Support	-622.67	-6,968.22	0.00
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer Fees (2018-2020)	-52.98	-37.11	-184.94
Bank Fees (2020-2022)	0.00	-486.46	0.00
ICHSTM	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prizes	-2,210.00	-5,153.28	0.00
Other representation	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	-2,885.65	-12,645.07	-184.94

Balance per 22 May 2022*

Salling Bank 7890 9454 775	USD	0.00
Salling Bank 7890 9454 783	EUR	0.00
Salling Bank 7890 3402 887	DKK	0.00
Deutsche Bank	EUR	39,613.20
DE79 1007 0848 0511 3915 11		

*All funds transferred to single Deutsche Bank account 7 October 2020. The ICHM is very grateful to the IMU for facilitating this transfer.