



ICM-2014	
Date of Release	August 21, 2014

2014 Seoul ICM finished in a great success

- 2014 SEOUL ICM Organizing committee has announced that the 2014 Seoul International Congress of Mathematicians held at COEX, Seoul from August 13th to August 21st was a great success.
 - 2014 Seoul ICM set the record in that the number of participants is 5,217 and that of participating countries is 122(Country & Region), both of which are the largest in ICM history. There were 2,645 domestic participants and 2,572 foreign participants.
 - 2014 Seoul ICM hosted total 1,262 academic lectures consisting of 7 main award lectures such as Fields Medalist lectures, 21 Plenary lectures, 178 Invited section lectures, 6 Panel discussions, 662 Short communications and 388 Poster presentations.

- At the closing ceremony, Professor Adrián Paenza at the Buenos Aires University, received the 2014 Leelavati Prize on account of his great contribution to popularization of mathematics, and the 2014 Seoul Organizing Committee sent a congratulatory message to Brazil, the next host country of ICM.
 - Brazil(Marcelo Viana, Chair of the ICM 2018 Organizing Committee) will host the 2018 International Congress of Mathematicians with International Mathematical Union (Shigefumi Mori, President-elect of IMU).
 - Adrián Paenza gave a public lecture with the title of “The Wrong Door” the day before the closing ceremony. He said that people become to have the prejudice that mathematics is difficult due to entering mathematics through “the wrong door”. Yet he emphasized that mathematics, in fact, is a friendly and joyful subject. He urged that mathematicians should make efforts in preventing people from entering “the wrong door” and intellectuals must share their knowledge with other people.

- In the ICM history, the largest number of participants from developing countries attended the congress thanks to NANUM program.
 - Under the theme of “Dreams and Hopes for Late Starters”, 662 mathematicians from 85 developing countries participated in the congress supported by NANUM program. During the congress, they have built human networks and had access to the latest mathematical development, with which they are expected to enhance the mathematical development in their own countries.



- The congress also provided an opportunity for the international mathematical community and emerging countries to grow together by opening the MENAO(Mathematics in Emerging Nations: Achievement and Opportunities) symposium and established a new research scholarship for mathematical development in developing countries.
- Public lectures, Baduk(Go) event, and a variety of public exhibitions were provided for the popularization of mathematics. Among the program named IMAGINARY, which combined math with the latest 3D technics, drew much attention from the public.
 - Nearly 20,000 people, most of whom are students and their parents, showed strong interest in mathematics participating in public lectures by prominent mathematicians, simultaneous games with professional Baduk players, math movie screening, and the 'IMAGINARY' program.
 - Not only national participants, but also many foreign participants showed great interests in Baduk events. Especially, public Baduk lectures and simultaneous games with professional Baduk players gained a big popularity.
- “Talented young mathematicians had chances to listen to lectures by world renowned scholars. There were a large number of public participants in mathematical cultural events, ranging from grade school students to adults. This made a turning point both in the qualitative academic development in mathematics and the popularization of mathematics in Korea.” said, Hyungju Park, the Chair of 2014 Seoul ICM Organizing Committee at the closing ceremony.
- Myung-Hwan Kim, the president of Korean Mathematical Society, said “Taking the success of the congress this year as a stepping stone, Korean mathematical community will continue their efforts to become a leading nation in the development of mathematics in the world.”
- A government official has said with a great anticipation, “the success of 2014 Seoul ICM will be a turning point of popularizing mathematics and strengthening mathematical competence in Korea.”