



International
Mathematical
Union

Statutes for the Chern Medal Award

*As decided at the Executive Committee of the IMU in 2007
with subsequent changes*

Preamble

The Chern Medal Award Program was established by the Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Union (IMU) and the Chern Medal Foundation (CMF), and is based on a generous grant from the CMF. The Chern Medal Award was named in honor of the eminent mathematician Shiing-Shen Chern (1911–2004).

Statutes

1. The Medal is to be awarded at the International Congress of Mathematicians to an individual whose accomplishments warrant the highest level of recognition for outstanding achievements in the field of mathematics.
2. All living, natural persons, regardless of age or vocation, shall be eligible for the Medal. Additional qualifying or disqualifying criteria may be imposed consistent with IMU policies.
3. Each Medalist shall receive a cash prize of USD 250,000. The Medal is awarded by the IMU President and a representative of the CMF.
4. In addition, each Medalist may nominate one or more organizations to receive funding totaling USD 250,000, for the support of research, education or other outreach programs in the field of mathematics (the “Organization Awards”).
5. Each Medalist’s nominees for Organization Awards are subject to approval by FIMU (Friends of the IMU), which shall grant such approval so long as the proposed awards:
 - (a) will be qualifying, charitable distributions within the meaning of U.S. tax law; and
 - (a) will substantially further the purposes of CMF, FIMU, and the Grant.
6. The Selection Committee that decides the recipients of the Chern Medal Award, is chosen by the Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Union. The Selection Committee consists of five members. The IMU shall appoint four members of each Selection Committee, and CMF shall appoint the fifth. A new Selection Committee shall be formed at least two years in advance of each award ceremony, for the purpose of identifying that Medalist. At the outset of each award cycle, the IMU shall nominate one of the five members of the Selection Committee as Chair of the Committee, subject to approval by CMF. The Selection Committee must abide by the IMU Guidelines regarding conflicts of interest in its deliberations. The name of the Chair of the Committee is made public, but the names of other members of the Committee remain anonymous until the award of the prize at the Congress. The identity of each Medalist will be kept strictly confidential until the time at which that Medalist is honored.
7. Nominations for this Medal must be submitted to the Selection Committee Chair. Any nomination should contain the name and affiliation of candidate, as well as a description of the work that qualifies the candidate for the award, written in terms that are accessible to mathematicians of different backgrounds, including references to the candidate's important publications.

Nominations are confidential, and must not be disclosed to the candidate. Self-nominations are strongly discouraged. The Committee is free to consider persons not nominated.

8. CMF retains the right to enjoin any ancillary usage of any name or mark associated with the Program if, in CMF's sole discretion, such use does not appropriately reflect on or advance the interests of the Program.
9. Any person can at most receive one Chern Medal, and cannot previously have received any other IMU award (Fields Medal, Nevanlinna Prize, Gauss Prize, and Leelavati Prize).
10. No current member of the IMU Executive Committee can receive the Chern Medal.