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 was first awarded at the International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) in 2010. It is based on a generous Grant from the CMF. The Chern Medal was named in honor of the eminent mathematician Shiing-Shen Chern (1911–2004).

Statutes

1. The Medal is to be awarded at the ICM 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. The Chern Medal Award consists of a medallion and a monetary award of USD 500,000. The Medalist receives a cash prize of USD 250,000 and 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”).

4. Each Medalist's nominees for Organization Awards are subject to approval by Friends of the IMU (FIMU), 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
   (b) will substantially further the purposes of the IMU, FIMU, and the Grant.

5. The Selection Committee that decides the recipients of the Chern Medal Award, is chosen by the Executive Committee of the IMU. The Selection Committee consists of five members. A new Selection Committee shall be formed at least two years in advance of each award ceremony, for the purpose of identifying that Medalist. The Selection Committee must abide by the IMU Guidelines regarding conflicts of interest, unconscious bias, and the principle of freedom and responsibility in science 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.

6. Nominations for this Medal must be submitted to the Selection Committee Chair. Any nomination should contain the name and affiliation of the 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.
7. No person can receive more than one IMU Award. An exception is that an individual can receive the Leelavati Prize in addition to one other IMU Award.

8. No person can receive an IMU Award or be an ICM Emmy Noether Lecturer while serving on the IMU Executive Committee.

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1 Fields Medal, IMU Abacus Medal/Rolf Nevanlinna Prize, Carl Friedrich Gauss Prize, Chern Medal Award, and Leelavati Prize.