



International
Mathematical
Union

Statutes for the Rolf Nevanlinna Prize

*As decided at the Executive Committee of the IMU in 1981
with subsequent changes*

Preamble¹

The Rolf Nevanlinna Prize in mathematical aspects of information science was established by the Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Union (IMU) in 1981, and in 1982, the IMU accepted the offer by the University of Helsinki to finance the prize. The prize was named in honor of Rolf Nevanlinna (1895–1980), who had been President of the IMU (1959–1962) and who in the 1950s had taken the initiative to the computer organization at Finnish universities. It was decided that the prize should consist of a gold medal and a cash prize like the ones associated with the Fields Medal and that one prize should be given at each International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM).

Statutes

1. The Rolf Nevanlinna Prize is awarded at an ICM for outstanding contributions in Mathematical Aspects of Information Sciences including:
 - (a) All mathematical aspects of computer science, including complexity theory, logic of programming languages, analysis of algorithms, cryptography, computer vision, pattern recognition, information processing and modelling of intelligence.
 - (b) Scientific computing and numerical analysis. Computational aspects of optimization and control theory. Computer algebra.
2. The Rolf Nevanlinna Prize is awarded to a mathematician whose 40th birthday must not occur before January 1st of the year of the ICM at which the Rolf Nevanlinna Prize is awarded.
3. The award consists of gold medal bearing the profile of Rolf Nevanlinna and a cash amount of EUR 10,000.
4. The Rolf Nevanlinna Prize Committee that decides the recipients of the Rolf Nevanlinna Prize, is chosen by the Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Union. The 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.
5. Nominations for this award must be submitted to the Prize Committee Chair. Any nomination should contain the name and affiliation of candidate, the candidate's date of birth, 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.

¹ More details on the early history of the Rolf Nevanlinna Prize can be found in O. Lehto's *Mathematics Without Borders*, Springer 1998.

6. Any person can at most receive one Nevanlinna Prize, and cannot previously have received any other IMU award (Fields Medal, Gauss Prize, Chern Medal, and Leelavati Prize).
7. No current member of the IMU Executive Committee can receive the Nevanlinna Prize.