

International Mathematical Union



July 25, 2019

IMU AO Circular Letter 13/2019

To: The Adhering Organizations of the International Mathematical Union (IMU)

From: Helge Holden, IMU Secretary General

Fraud alert

Dear colleagues,

This is a warning about an ongoing fraud attempt. Someone is sending out false emails in the name of IMU President Carlos Kenig.

Here is an example:

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From: "Carlos Kenig" <cek@math.uchicago.edu>
To: XXXX
Sent: Tuesday, 23 July, 2019 21:15:47
Subject: IMU - International Mathematical Union

Hi XXX,

How are you? Are you available or on holiday? I need your help with the International Mathematical Union (IMU) regarding logistical support payment for the Summer Research for Women in Mathematics program ..

I'll be waiting for your reply email soon.

Best regards,

Carlos Kenig

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A follow-up may look like this:

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From: "Carlos Kenig" <cek@math.uchicago.edu>
To: XXXX
Sent: Wednesday, 24 July, 2019 01:31:59
Subject: RE: IMU - International Mathematical Union

Dear XXX,

Thanks for the reply. The IMU has an urgent payment of € 2.963 to send to IMU Spanish delegate

for logistical support payment for the Summer Research for Women in Mathematics program. The IMU treasurer is unavailable due to a recent family emergency and will return to the office next week Monday.

As the IMU President, it is my duty to make this payment as soon as possible. However, due to some problems in modernizing my bank, I can not send an international fund until my bank has completed their upgrading. Knowing you are from European region and it will be easy for you to make a SEPA payment, I would like to ask you for a support to help pay the amount as we reimburse you on later.

We will have the amount reimbursed back to you as soon as the treasurer returns.

Please confirm that i forward to you the bank details for the payment if this is convenient for you help make this payment?

I will really count on you on this one.

I'll be waiting for your reply email soon.

Best regards,

Carlos Kenig

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This is a fraud. Do not respond to it. Please note that all IMU email addresses have the format **<name>@mathunion.org**, and this applies in particular to the Reply-To address.

We apologize, and we will investigate it further.

Please let us know if you have been contacted similarly, as we would like to see the extent of this attempted fraud.

Regards

Helge Holden

Secretary General of the International Mathematical Union