Want to get involved and find out more about IMU and IMU activities?

Individuals can get involved in the various activities offered by IMU and its Commissions and Committees. Please check the IMU website and contact your Adhering Organization for more information.

If your country is not yet a member, please contact the IMU Secretariat.

Subscribe to IMU News and connect with us on Facebook.

www.mathunion.org

IMU
International Mathematical Union

The IMU is an international non-governmental and non-profit scientific organization. IMU’s objectives are:

- To promote international cooperation in mathematics.
- To support and assist the International Congress of Mathematicians and other international scientific meetings or conferences.
- To encourage and support other international mathematical activities considered likely to contribute to the development of mathematical science in any of its aspects, pure, applied, or educational.

IMU was founded in 1920 and re-constituted after World War II in 1951.

IMU is a member of the International Science Council (ISC).

Applying for IMU Membership

The International Mathematical Union invites every country in the world with mathematical activities to become an IMU Member. A country that is starting to develop its mathematical culture and is interested in building up links to mathematicians the world over is invited to join IMU as an Associate Member.

The IMU has no individual members. Its Members and Associate Members are countries. Each member country is represented through an Adhering Organization, which may be its principal academy, a mathematical society, its research council or some other institution or association of institutions, or an appropriate agency of its government.

Any country that is not a member of the IMU is invited to apply for IMU membership. Please contact the IMU Secretary General who will explain the benefits of IMU membership and the application procedure. An overview can be found in the IMU Membership Guidelines on the IMU website.

Photos: 1:ICM 1897 Zürich, 2:Virtual ICM 2022, 3: IMU GA 2018 São Paulo, Davi Campana, 4: CATHERINE SCHRODER/Universite de Strasbourg, Others: IMU
The International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM)

- The ICMs are the largest mathematical conferences worldwide. They cover all areas of mathematics and are held every four years. The first ICM was held in 1897 in Zurich, Switzerland.
- The IMU considers the organization of the ICMs as its most important activity. An ICM should reflect what is going on in mathematics in the world at the time it takes place, present the best work of all mathematical subfields and different regions of the world, and thus point to the future of mathematics. The invited speakers at an ICM are carefully selected by an outstanding program committee that is supported by section panels.
- ICM 2022 - the 29th edition of the ICM - will take place in July 2022 as a virtual event for the first time. At the ICM Opening Ceremony the prestigious scientific prizes of the IMU, also known as the Fields Medal, the Nevanlinna Prize, the Chern Medal and the Gauss Prize, are presented.

IMU Awards

- The International Mathematical Union grants four Prizes for mathematical achievement which are awarded every four years at the Opening Ceremony of the International Congress of Mathematicians.
- The Fields Medal recognizes outstanding mathematical achievement, it was first awarded in 1936.
- The IMU Abacus Medal is awarded for outstanding contributions in mathematical aspects of information sciences. It will be awarded for the first time in 2022.
- The Carl Friedrich Gauss Prize is awarded for outstanding mathematical contributions that have found significant applications outside of mathematics, it was awarded first in 2006.
- The Chern Medal is awarded to an individual whose accomplishments warrant the highest level of recognition for outstanding achievements in the field of mathematics, it was awarded for the first time in 2010.
- The IMU Prize for mathematical outreach is awarded for outstanding public outreach work for mathematics. The IMU awards the Prize since 2010. Since 2014 this Prize is sponsored by Infosys.
- The Leelavati Prize recognizes outstanding public outreach work for mathematics. The IMU awards the prize for the first time in 2020.
- The IMU Special Lecture is awarded to an individual whose accomplishments warrant the highest level of recognition for outstanding achievements in the field of mathematics, it was awarded for the first time in 1994.
- The IMU Emmy Noether Lecture honors women who have made fundamental and sustained contributions to the mathematical sciences, it was presented for the first time in 1994.

Organization of IMU

- The members of IMU are countries, with each member represented through an Adhering Organization (AO).
- IMU currently has 87 members worldwide. Five multi-national societies are at present affiliated with the IMU: AMU (African Mathematical Union), EMS (European Mathematical Society), ICMA (Mathematical Council of the Americas), SEAMS (Southeast Asian Mathematical Society), UMALCA (Unión Matemática de América Latina y el Caribe).
- IMU’s governing body is the General Assembly (GA). The GA consists of delegates appointed by the Adhering Organizations of IMU, together with the members of the IMU Executive Committee, and of the Representatives of Associate and Affiliate IMU Members. The GA normally meets once every four years usually at a place and date close to an International Congress of Mathematicians. The IMU Statutes contain a detailed description of the rights and duties of the GA.
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- The International Mathematical Union is administered by an Executive Committee (EC) which conducts the business of the Union. The EC is elected for a four-year term.
- The IMU Secretariat, based in Berlin, Germany, runs IMU’s day-to-day business, provides support in many IMU operations, and hosts the IMU Archive.

Publications

- The IMU newsletter (IMU News) is published every two months. The newsletter aims to enhance communication between IMU and the worldwide mathematical community, by reporting decisions and recommendations of IMU, and highlighting issues that are under discussion. In addition, IMU News reports on major international mathematical events and developments, and on other topics of general mathematical interest. Feedback from readers is welcome. Please subscribe to our newsletter via the IMU website.
- The IMU Bulletin is published every two months. The IMU Bulletin is a refereed journal that addresses specific issues on the IMU agenda. The IMU Bulletin is available via https://www.imu.org

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