
Mathematics Opportunities

NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awards Mathematical Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowships for appropriate research in areas of the mathematical sciences, including applications to other disciplines. A revised program announcement is available from the website http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08582/nsf08582.htm?govDel=USNSF_25. The deadline for proposals is **October 15, 2008**.

—From an NSF announcement

AMS Epsilon Fund

The AMS Epsilon Fund awards grants to summer mathematics programs that support and nurture mathematically talented high school students in the United States. The deadline for application for funding for summer 2009 programs is **December 15, 2008**. Application materials are available at <http://www.ams.org/outreach/epsilon.html> or by mail: Membership and Programs Department, American Mathematical Society, 201 Charles Street, Providence, RI 02904-2294; telephone 800-321-4267, ext. 4170; email: prof-serv@ams.org.

—AMS announcement

AMS-AAAS Mass Media Summer Fellowships

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) sponsors the Mass Media Science and Engineering Summer Fellows Program, through which graduate students work during the summer in major media outlets. The AMS provides support each year for one or two graduate students in the mathematical sciences to participate in the program. In past years, the AMS-sponsored fellows have held positions at *Scientific American*, *Business Week*, *Voice of America*, *Discovery Channel Online*, *National Geographic Television*, *Popular Science*, *The Chicago Tribune*, and *Time* magazine.

Fellows receive a weekly stipend of US\$450, plus travel expenses, to work for ten weeks during the summer as reporters, researchers, and production assistants in media organizations. They observe and participate in the process by which events and ideas become news, improve their ability to communicate about complex technical subjects in a manner understandable to the public, and increase their understanding of editorial decision making and of how information is effectively disseminated. Each fellow attends an orientation and evaluation session in Washington, DC, and begins the internship in mid-June. Fellows submit interim and final reports to AAAS. A wrap-up session is held at the end of the summer.

Mathematical sciences faculty are urged to make their graduate students aware of this program. The deadline to apply for fellowships for the summer of 2009 is **January 15, 2009**. Further information about the fellowship program and application procedures is available online at <http://www.aaas.org/programs/education/MassMedia/> or applicants may contact Stacey Pasco, Manager, Mass Media Program, AAAS Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program, 1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005; telephone 202-326-6441; fax 202-371-9849; email: spasco@aaas.org.

Further information is also available at <http://www.ams.org/government/massmediaann.html> and through the AMS Washington Office, 1527 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036; telephone 202-588-1100; fax 202-588-1853; email: amsdc@ams.org.

—AMS Washington Office

Enhancing the Mathematical Sciences Workforce in the Twenty-First Century

The long-range goal of the Enhancing the Mathematical Sciences Workforce in the Twenty-First Century (EMSW21) program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) is to increase the number of well-prepared U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents who pursue careers in the mathematical sciences and in other NSF-supported disciplines. This program builds on the Vertical Integration of Research and Education (VIGRE) program and

includes a broadened VIGRE activity, an additional component for Research Training Groups (RTG), and another for Mentoring through Critical Transition Points (MCTP) in the Mathematical Sciences.

The VIGRE program supports projects that involve entire departments in the training process, from the start of the undergraduate career through the completion of a postdoctoral fellowship. The RTG program involves a group of researchers based in a subarea of the mathematical sciences or linked by a multidisciplinary theme and supports training at educational levels from undergraduate to postdoctoral within that focus. The MCTP program supports projects, either departmentally based or conducted by a large group of faculty members, that are aimed at critical transition points in the educational careers of students and junior researchers.

The DMS expects to make between nine and fifteen awards under this program in 2009. The deadline for proposals is **June 2, 2009**. For more information about the program and all of its components, see the website http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf05595.

—From an NSF announcement

AWM Essay Contest

To increase awareness of women's ongoing contributions to the mathematical sciences, the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) is holding an essay contest for biographies of contemporary women mathematicians and statisticians in academic, industrial, and government careers.

The essays will be based primarily on interviews with women who are currently working in mathematical sciences careers. The contest is open to students in the following categories: 6th–8th grades, 9th–12th grades, and college undergraduates. At least one winning submission will be chosen from each category. Winners will receive a prize, and their essays will be published online at the AWM website. A grand prize winner will have his or her submission published in the *AWM Newsletter* as well. The tentative deadline for entries is **February 27, 2009**.

In addition to student entries, organizers are currently seeking women mathematicians to volunteer as the subjects of these essays. For more information, see <http://www.awm-math.org/biographies/contest.html>.

—From an AWM announcement

PIMS Postdoctoral Fellows

The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) invites nominations of outstanding young researchers in the mathematical sciences for Postdoctoral Fellowships for the year 2009–2010. Candidates must be nominated by one or more scientists or departments affiliated with PIMS, or by a department (or departments) affiliated with PIMS. The fellowships are intended to supplement support made

available through such a sponsor. The Institute expects to support up to 20 fellowships tenable at any of its Canadian member universities: Simon Fraser University, the University of Alberta, the University of British Columbia, the University of Calgary, the University of Victoria, University of Regina, and the University of Saskatchewan, as well as at the University of Lethbridge (a PIMS affiliate).

For the 2008–2009 competition, the amount of the award is CA\$20,000 and the sponsor(s) is (are) required to provide additional funds to finance a minimum stipend of CA\$40,000 (plus benefits).

Award decisions are made by the PIMS PDF Review Panel based on excellence of the candidate, potential for participation in PIMS programs, and potential for involvement with PIMS partners. PIMS Postdoctoral Fellows will be expected to participate in all PIMS activities related to the Fellow's area of expertise and will be encouraged to spend time at other sites. To ensure that PIMS Postdoctoral Fellows are able to participate fully in Institute activities, they may not teach more than two single-term courses per year.

Nominees must have a Ph.D. or equivalent (or expect to receive a Ph.D. by December 31, 2009) and be within three years of their Ph.D. at the time of the nomination (i.e., the candidate must have received her or his Ph.D. on or after January 1, 2006). The fellowship may be taken up at any time between April 1, 2009, and January 1, 2010. The fellowship is for one year and is renewable for at most one additional year.

Nominations must include: 1) **curriculum vitae**, 2) **statement of research interests**, 3) **three letters of reference** (including one from a sponsoring professor), and 4) **statement of anticipated support from the sponsor**.

Deadline for Nominations: The sponsors should send the complete nomination package to: Attn: PIMS PDF Competition, Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences, 200 – 1933 West Mall, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2 Canada. Nominations must be received by **December 12, 2008**. For more information, visit: <http://www.pims.math.ca/scientific/postdoctoral>.

PIMS accepts no responsibility for incomplete packages, or for individual components of a nomination package being sent to any of our offices.

—From a PIMS announcement

News from AIM

The American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) seeks proposals for (a) five-day focused workshops (for up to 32 fully funded participants) in all areas of the mathematical sciences, and (b) SQuaRES—which are teams of 4–8 mathematical scientists that spend one week at AIM collaborating on a specific project. The deadline for proposing a workshop or a SQuaRE is **November 1, 2008**. Detailed information about AIM programs, upcoming workshops, and application forms for proposals can be found at <http://www.aimath.org>.

—AIM announcement