



James Carlson.

Dear Friends of Mathematics,

For the past five years, the annual meeting of the Clay Mathematics Institute has been a one-afternoon event, held each November in Cambridge, Massachusetts, devoted to presentation of the Clay Research Awards and to talks on the work of the recipients. The award recognizes major breakthroughs in mathematical research. Awardees receive flexible research support for one year and the bronze sculpture “Figureeight Knot Complement vii/CMI” by Helaman Ferguson. Past awardees, in reverse chronological order, are Manjul Bhargava, Nils Dencker, Ben Green, Gérard Laumon and Bao-Châu Ngô, Richard Hamilton, Terence Tao, Oded Schramm, Manindra Agrawal, Edward Witten, Stanislav Smirnov, Alain Connes, Laurent Lafforgue, and Andrew Wiles.

Beginning in 2007, the annual meeting will be held in May, alternating between Harvard and MIT as in the past, with an expanded two-day program of talks on recent research developments in addition to presentation of the awards. The aim is to offer a series of high-quality expository lectures that will inform mathematicians regardless of specialty.

Another major change this year concerns the editorial board for the Clay Mathematics Institute Monograph Series, published jointly with the American Mathematical Society. Simon Donaldson and Andrew Wiles will serve as editors-in-chief, while I will serve as managing editor. Associate editors are Brian Conrad, Ingrid Daubechies, Charles Fefferman, János Kollár, Andrei Okounkov, David Morrison, Cliff Taubes, Peter Ozsváth, and Karen Smith. The Monograph Series publishes selected expositions of recent developments, both in emerging areas and in older subjects transformed by new insights or unifying ideas. The next volume in the series will be *Ricci Flow and the Poincaré Conjecture*, by John Morgan and Gang Tian. Their book will appear in the summer of 2007.

In related publishing news, the Institute has had the complete record of the Göttingen seminars of Felix Klein, 1872–1912, digitized and made available on the web. Part of this project, which will play out over time, is to provide online annotation, commentary, and translations to complement the original source material. The same will be done with the results of an earlier project to digitize the 888 AD copy of Euclid’s *Elements*. See www.claymath.org/library/historical.

Mathematics has a millennia-long history during which creative activity has waxed and waned. There have been many golden ages, among which have figured the schools of Greece and Göttingen. The current period, with the resolution of so many long-standing problems, among which are Fermat’s last theorem, the Sato-Tate conjecture, arithmetic progressions in the primes, and the Poincaré conjecture, is arguably one of these. In any case, we live in exciting times for mathematics.

Sincerely,

James A. Carlson
President