



LMS SOCIETY AND GENERAL MEETING 2022

Friday 1 July 2022 at 3.30pm at BMA House, Tavistock Square, London
and via videoconference

AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the Meeting**
- 2. Resolutions:**
 - 2.1 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12 November 2021
 - 2.2 Appointment of Scrutineers
 - 2.3 Elections to Honorary Membership
- 3. Announcement of LMS Prize winners for 2022**
- 4. Announcement of the Bachelier Prize winner for 2022**
- 5. First Lecture: Becky Armstrong (Muenster)**
Groupoidology
- 6. Break**
- 7. Aitken Lecture 2022: Lisa Orloff Clark (Victoria University of Wellington)**
Equivalence relations, topology and C^ -algebras*

Caroline Wallace
Executive Secretary
10 June 2022

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

Of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on 12 November 2021 at Goodenough College, London and via video conference

1.0 WELCOME

- 1.1 The President, Professor Jon Keating, welcomed attendees to the meeting, both in person and those joining via Zoom video conference.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING, 2 JULY 2021

- 2.1 **The minutes of the General Meeting held 2 July 2021 were agreed as an accurate record.**

3.0 REVIEW OF SOCIETY ACTIVITIES 2020-21

- 3.1 Vice-President Professor Cathy Hobbs gave a presentation on the Society's activities in 2020-21. She reminded members of the charitable aims of the Society. The Society played an important role in the funding landscape. Its grants were smaller scale, higher volume and with a high application success rate. In 2020-21, the Society awarded more than £552k to support mathematics across its entire grant portfolio.

Today's AGM was being live streamed and was the Society's first major hybrid event.

De Morgan House and the Society's Conference Business had reopened when the removal of Covid restrictions allowed this, providing facilities supporting a wide range of organisations and again producing a revenue stream for the Society. The Society had commissioned an Energy Efficiency Audit of De Morgan House which made several recommendations on ways to improve efficiency. An Environmental Policy Statement had been adopted by Council to reinforce the Society's ongoing commitment to sustainability, setting out shorter and longer-term goals. Building on the lessons of the pandemic, it had become apparent that online meetings and remote working could be both effective and more environmentally friendly.

Following a formal tendering process the contract with Wiley to publish the five LMS-owned journals and *Mathematika* was renewed for a second 5-year term. There will be a reduced income to the Society through publishing as a result of changes in the market, including the drive towards Open Access. During the year 2,429 papers were submitted to the LMS, with over 680 papers and 19,500 pages published by an international authorship in areas across mathematics. Around 20% of this content was published Open Access. 10 books had been published in the Society's *Lecture Notes* and *Student Texts* series.

In terms of connecting with the mathematical community, over the year six issues of the LMS Newsletter had benefited from 32 authors collectively contributing 33 items for the features section, 17 people contributing to reviews, and 6 PhD students contributing 'microtheses'. Monthly e-updates were sent to 65 LMS Representatives and all Members highlighting upcoming news, events and grant deadlines.

Council agreed a new Communications Strategy and Operational Plan, with Communications now a standing item on key Committee agendas. The Society sought to identify and help address current concerns within the mathematics community, making several public statements on matters of concern during the year. The Society helped found the 'Protect Pure Maths' campaign with aims that include increasing public understanding of the value of pure mathematics, calling for greater investment in teaching and research of mathematics at every stage of education and protecting pure maths departments from further significant cuts and preventing any more departments from closing.

During 2020-21 the Society continued to promote its Equality Diversity and Inclusion activities including a major new initiative, Levelling Up: Mathematics. Thanks to a generous donation from Dr Tony Hill, a pilot scheme was launched providing online tutoring for A-Level Mathematics students from under-represented backgrounds. For the second year the LMS helped to organise the Black Heroes of Mathematics event in collaboration with the British Society for the History of Mathematics, the International Centre for Mathematical Sciences, the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, the Isaac Newton Institute and the Mathematical Association. Thanks to the continued generous donation from the Lieber Foundation the Society was able to award four Emmy Noether Fellowships to assist researchers with caring responsibilities.

In 2020-21 the Society received several gifts of historical significance. AEL Davies bequeathed to the Society a copy of the rare book of astronomical tables *Urania Propitia* by Maria Cunitz, published in 1650 and with fewer than 25 physical copies known to exist. The Bank of England presented the Society with one of the new Turing bank notes. The low serial number was in reference to Turing's seminal paper published in *Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society*.

For the first time the Society was piloting a new approach to presenting its annual activities. In the interests of sustainability, and in hope of widening the audience for our Annual Review, it would be available through a microsite on the Society's website. No printed Annual Review has been produced for 2020-21.

4.0 REPORT OF THE TREASURER

- 4.1 The Treasurer, Professor Simon Salamon, gave a presentation on the Society's finances and related matters in 2020-21. He provided an overview of the Society's total income, expenditure and assets and the response to the Covid pandemic.

There were several impacts of the global pandemic on the Society: a reduction in grant applications, and postponement/cancellation of some activities, a big dip in the value of investments in 2020, but which were now recovering strongly, and a complete loss of income from conferences at De Morgan House until July 2021. The impact on income from commercial rents remained to be seen.

The Society's response to these impacts included an emergency reserve fund created with spending on extra Early Career Fellowships, more Scheme 3 grants for online lecture series and new 'Research Reboot' grants.

As noted earlier by Vice-President Hobbs, a new 5-year contract for core journals had been signed with Wiley, to start from 1 January 2022. Changes in journal models to accommodate Open Access will result in a drop in the Society's publications income from around £1.7m a year to around £1.2m a year.

Unconfirmed

Two special Council ‘retreat’ sessions were held in April and May 2021 to put the Society’s finances on a sustainable footing in light of this reduction in income. It was agreed to set priorities based on alignment with our charitable objectives and impact, set overall reductions and leaving individual committees to decide the detail of the savings. Council had decided to set up a one-year ‘Covid catch-up fund’ for cancelled/postponed activities and a three-year ‘Mitigation fund’ to smooth the transition to the new budgetary environment.

Around 3,100 mathematicians and mathematical students were members of the Society. The LMS Reps network continued to be developed and it was a very important link in communicating with members. A successful LMS Reps’ day was held online in 2021. Two new reciprocity agreements were set up in 2020-21, with the Indonesian Mathematical Society and the Allahabad Mathematical Society.

The Society’s main assets were held by investment managers Cazenove. The Society had invested in Cazenove Capital’s Charity Multi-Asset Fund (CMAF), designed for charities seeking to maintain real value of the capital while generating a sustainable income level. Cazenove’s objective was to deliver a net return in excess of CPI+4%. It achieved 16.4% (net) in the year to July 2021 (exceeding the target 6.1%). The market value of the Society’s CMAF was £12.7m on 10 November 2021 (it was £10.9m in July 2020), with the LMS drawing down 3.5% of the market value smoothed over 2 years.

For the investment portfolio in the future, Council decided in October to move 20% from Cazenove’s CMAF to its Responsible Multi-Asset Fund (RMAF). This has a higher Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) rating, with no investment in fossil fuels, alcohol, tobacco, gambling etc, but has the same long-term target return objective. Council was drawing up a plan to continue to shift its investments in this way, in accordance with the recently adopted LMS Environmental Policy Statement. Over 1/3 of the Society’s investment portfolio would be in the RMAF by the end of 2021.

The Society’s property portfolio had two strands: firstly De Morgan House, which offers office space for staff and commercial lettings (there are currently some vacancies). For conference room business, bookings were picking up. Secondly, the Society owned residential flats for investment and letting. Income from these flats during 2020-21 was about £136k (a yield of around 4.1%).

The Treasurer concluded by reporting that Covid had inevitably reduced the Society’s activity to an extent, but the LMS had maintained its core work. The Society’s finances were in a strong position, with a budget that should protect us for the next 5 years, but with a need to plan for decreasing publications income after that. Investments had recovered, but caution was needed with rising inflation and potential market volatility.

5.0 RESOLUTIONS

- 5.1 The President introduced the part of the meeting in which Society members would be asked to vote on two items of business.

i) Adoption of the Trustees’ Report, including the year-end accounts for 2020-21

Copies of the Trustees’ Annual Report and Accounts 2020-21 had been circulated in advance to all members. The President recommended on behalf of Council the adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts and asked members if they were in agreement.

The resolution required a simple majority to be passed and was passed.

ii) Appointment of Auditors

Council proposed that Moore Kingston Smith be appointed as the Society's Auditors for the current year, 2021-22. The President recommended on behalf of Council the approval of the reappointment of Moore Kingston Smith and asked members if they were in agreement.

The resolution required a simple majority to be passed and was passed.

6.0 PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO LMS PRIZE WINNERS FOR 2021

6.1 The President, on Council's behalf, presented certificates to the following 2021 prize-winners:

Pólya Prize:	Professor Ehud Hrushovski
Naylor Prize and Lectureship:	Professor Endre Süli
Anne Bennett Prize:	Dr Viveka Erlandsson
Whitehead Prize:	Dr Michael Magee

6.2 The winner of the Senior Whitehead Prize, Professor Tara Brendle, the winner of the Berwick Prize, Dr Ailsa Keating, and the winners of Whitehead Prizes, Dr Jonathan Evans, Professor Patrick Farrell, Dr Agelos Georgakopoulos, Dr Aretha Teckentrup and Professor Stuart White, were unable to collect their certificates at the meeting.

6.3 The President announced that the Society and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications had jointly awarded the David Crighton Medal to Professor Caroline Series. The David Crighton Medal would be presented to Caroline Series at a joint ceremony in 2022.

6.4 The President announced that the Society and the British Society for the History of Mathematics had jointly awarded the Hirst Prize and Lectureship to Professor Karine Chemla. The Prize would be awarded at the Hirst Lecture in 2022.

7.0 NOMINATIONS TO MEMBERSHIP

7.1 The members **agreed to the election of 322 new members** of the Society.

8.0 ADMISSIONS TO THE SOCIETY

7.1 At each Society meeting, members of the London Mathematical Society are invited to sign the Members' Book, if they had not already done so. The Members' Book dates from 1865 when the Society was founded and contains signatures of members throughout the years, including G. H. Hardy, Poincaré, Felix Klein, James Clerk Maxwell, Mary Cartwright and R. A. Fisher. Any members present who had not yet signed the book were invited to come forward to do so.

9.0 PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

9.1 The President invited any non-members in attendance who wished to join the Society to speak to the Membership and Grants Manager or to visit the Society's website: www.lms.ac.uk

10.0 RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

10.1 The President reported that Records of the Proceedings of the following Society Meetings held in person in 2019 and 2020 had been published in the *LMS Newsletter*:

1. LMS Annual General Meeting 2019, Goodenough College, 29 November 2019.
2. LMS South West & South Wales Regional Meeting: *Interactions between Geometry, Dynamics and Group Theory*, University of Bristol, 15 January 2020.

With the agreement of members, the President signed these as a correct record.

The President reported that due to time constraints at the meeting, the Records of Proceedings of subsequent Society Meetings in 2020 and 2021, which were held online, would be signed at future in-person Society Meetings.

11.0 DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY

11.1 The President reported that in the past the Society had benefitted from donations from many individuals, notably Lord Rayleigh, G. H. Hardy and S. Verblunsky. Members and non-members can now donate to the Society via the ‘donate’ button on the website. In particular, the De Morgan Donations were a way for anyone able to make a donation of £1,865 to the Society to do so and become one of the De Morgan Friends. The President invited attendees to see the Society’s website for details.

12.0 JENS MARKLOF (UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL)

12.1 Professor Jens Marklof gave a lecture on “*Random Lattices*”.

13.0 ELECTION RESULTS

13.1 Scrutineer Professor Charles Goldie announced the results of the Council and Nominating Committee elections for 2021 as follows:

COUNCIL

President: Professor Ulrike Tillmann

Vice-Presidents: Professor Iain Gordon, Professor Catherine Hobbs

Treasurer: Professor Simon Salamon

General Secretary: Professor Robb McDonald

Publications Secretary: Professor Niall MacKay

Programme Secretary: Professor Chris Parker

Education Secretary: Dr Kevin Houston

Member-at-Large (Women and Diversity): Professor Sara Lombardo

Members-at-Large of Council: Professor Elaine Crooks, Professor Andrew Dancer, Dr Jessica Enright, Dr Frank Neumann, Dr Rachel Newton, Professor Brita Nucinkis

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr Nira Chamberlain and Professor Philip Maini

13.2 It was noted that the continuing Members-at-Large elected in 2020 were: Professor Peter Ashwin, Professor Anne-Christine Davis, Professor Minhyong Kim, Professor Niall MacKay (now elected Publications Secretary), Professor Anne Taormina and Dr Amanda Turner.

Unconfirmed

- 13.3 It was noted that the continuing members of Nominating Committee were: Professor Tara Brendle (Chair from 2022), Professor Chris Budd, Professor Beatrice Pelloni, Professor Mary Rees and Professor Gwyneth Stallard. One member of Council would also be nominated to the Nominating Committee.

14.0 HANDOVER OF PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE

- 14.1 Professor Jon Keating handed over the Presidential badge of office to Professor Ulrike Tillmann. The new President thanked members for the honour and privilege of being elected as President and promised to fulfil the Charter, Statutes and By-Laws of the Society. She commended Professor Keating for his dedicated leadership of the Society during his term as President.

15. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS – JON KEATING (University of Oxford)

- 15.1 Professor Jon Keating gave a talk on *Random Matrices and the Riemann Zeta-Function*.

16. GRADUATE STUDENT MEETING

- 16.1 The President thanked members of the Early Career Research Committee and the LMS staff for organizing the Graduate Student Meeting held on Monday 8 November, and also thanked the speaker, Professor Nina Snaith. There were also nine talks given by Graduate Students at the meeting.

17. CLOSE OF MEETING

- 17.1 The President, on behalf of the meeting, thanked the following people who had served the Society over the past few years and who were now retiring from their respective positions. Volunteers were critical to the Society's effectiveness and the LMS was very grateful indeed for all the time and hard work they had donated so generously to the Society:

Jon Keating – President (2019-2021)

John Hunton – Publications Secretary (2013-2021)

Tony Gardiner - Member-at-Large (2015 – 2021)

Mark McCartney – Member-at-Large (Librarian) (2018-2021)

Eleanor Lingham – Newsletter Editor-in-Chief (2019-2021)

- 17.2 The President closed the meeting and thanked everyone who had been involved with organising the Annual General Meeting and the audience for attending. The next Society meeting would take place on 4 January 2022 hosted by Swansea University online as part of the South West & South Wales Regional Meeting on *Braces in Bracelet Bay*; speakers would include Anastasia Doikou (Edinburgh), Shahn Majid (London) and Leandro Vendramin (Brussels).