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David Eisenbud Elected To American Academy of Arts and Sciences

*Mathematician joins the ranks of two former United States presidents,
United States Supreme Court Chief Justice, and a Nobel laureate*

BERKELEY, CA - The American Academy of Arts and Sciences today announced the election of Berkeley's Dr. David Eisenbud, Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI), as a new Fellow. Those elected in addition to Dr. Eisenbud include two former presidents of the United States; the Chief Justice of the United States; a Nobel laureate; and a member of the French Senate.

Dr. Eisenbud is a vocal leader for the science community and stresses the importance of mathematics research and education in his visits to Washington, D.C., where he has testified before congress on the importance of supporting the National Science Foundation, and worked with the American Mathematical Society in organizing congressional luncheons stressing applications of mathematics to such fields as homeland security and biology. He is a Professor of Mathematics at UC Berkeley. His more than 100 published papers and 6 books range over fields such as commutative algebra, singularity theory, knot theory, and algebraic geometry, and even include a paper on the mathematics of juggling. He currently serves on several mathematical editorial boards, including Computing in Science and Engineering, the Bulletin du Société Mathématique de France, and Springer-Verlag's book series Algorithms and Computation in Mathematics. From 2003-2005, Dr. Eisenbud was President of the American Mathematical Society.

"It is exciting to see David commended for his hard work in the field," said MSRI Deputy Director Hugo Rossi. "His deep research and his contributions to the community of mathematical scientists and mathematics educators make this accolade well deserved."

In addition to David Eisenbud, this year's new Fellows include former Presidents George H.W. Bush and William Jefferson Clinton; Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts; Nobel Prize-winning biochemist and Rockefeller University President Sir Paul Nurse; the chairman and vice chairman of the 9/11 commission, Thomas Kean and Lee Hamilton; actor and director Martin Scorsese; choreographer Meredith Monk; conductor Michael

Tilson Thomas; and New York Stock Exchange chairman Marshall Carter. In all, 175 individuals and 20 new Foreign Honorary Members were elected.

"It gives me great pleasure to welcome these outstanding leaders in their fields to the Academy," said Academy President Patricia Meyer Spacks. "Fellows are selected through a highly competitive process that recognizes individuals who have made preeminent contributions to their disciplines and to society at large."

The Academy will welcome this year's new class at its annual Induction Ceremony on October 7, at the Academy's headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Founded in 1780 by John Adams, James Bowdoin, John Hancock and other scholar-patriots, the Academy has elected as Fellows and Foreign Honorary Members the finest minds and most influential leaders from each generation, including George Washington and Ben Franklin in the eighteenth century, Daniel Webster and Ralph Waldo Emerson in the nineteenth, and Albert Einstein and Winston Churchill in the twentieth. The current membership includes more than 170 Nobel laureates and 50 Pulitzer Prize winners. An independent policy research center, the Academy undertakes studies of complex and emerging problems. Current Academy research focuses on science and global security; social policy; the humanities and culture; and education.

MSRI is one of the world's premiere centers for research in the mathematical sciences, and has been advancing mathematical research through workshops and conferences since its founding in 1982. More than 1700 mathematical scientists visit MSRI each year.

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