

Chern Centennial

CONFERENCE

Sunday, October 30 to
Friday, November 4, 2011

Chern Medal

The International Mathematical Union (IMU) and the Chern Medal Foundation (CMF) have launched a major new international prize in mathematics, the Chern Medal Award, in memory of the distinguished mathematician Shiing-Shen Chern (1911–2004). According to the Award's guidelines, "the Chern Medal is to be awarded to an individual whose accomplishments warrant the highest level of recognition for outstanding achievements in the field of mathematics."

The first Chern Medal was presented to Louis Nirenberg of the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University, at last year's 2010 International Congress of Mathematicians in Hyderabad, India, on August 20.



The award ceremony included an overview of the Professor Nirenberg's achievements in a public presentation. The medal will be awarded every four years at the quadrennial ICMS.

The Award consists of a medal and a monetary prize of \$500,000, half of which shall be donated to organizations of the recipient's choice to support research, education or other outreach programs in the field of mathematics. Since Professor Chern was generous during his lifetime in his support of the field, the introduction by the IMU and CMF of an "Organization Award" as part of the prize sets an example of philanthropy in promoting mathematics that is in keeping with Chern's own private practice and is a standard for mathematicians to continue Chern's legacy of personal generosity. In contrast to the Fields Medal and Nevanlinna Prize, which are awarded by the IMU to young researchers under 40 years old, the Chern Medal Award has no age limitation and seeks to recognize long-term work with outstanding theoretical consequences.

The Chern Medal Foundation was established by contributions from the S.-S. Chern Foundation for Mathematical Research and the Simons Foundation to create and fund the Chern Medal Award.

For more information, please visit

www.msri.org/chernconference

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