

A new chair for the ICMS programme committee

RECRUITMENT OF THE ICMS PROGRAMME COMMITTEE CHAIR

The ICMS runs a programme of international research workshops and related research activity. Our EPSRC grant, started in April 2018, guarantees funding for six years. This funding was added to with an additional £5 million awarded in 2021. ICMS moved into a new building in the heart of Edinburgh in 2018. This is an exciting time for change and development. Proposals for workshops are considered by the Programme Committee which makes recommendations to the Director. The ICMS is seeking to appoint a new Chair of the Programme Committee to replace Professor Maria Schonbek, University of California, Santa Cruz whose term has come to an end. The ICMS is grateful to Professor Schonbek for her work as Chair. The Chair oversees Programme Committee decisions and liaises with the Director and Centre Manager to ensure the quality and breadth of activity is maintained. To demonstrate independence from the UK mathematical sciences community, the Chair is normally not based in the UK. The Chair serves for three years in the first instance, with a possible extension of up to three further years.

ROLE OF THE ICMS PROGRAMME COMMITTEE AND ITS CHAIR

The ICMS Programme Committee provides an independent assessment of proposals and review of the scientific activities at ICMS. It meets at least once a year, normally in Edinburgh, and assesses proposals at other times via email. It is responsible for the vetting of scientific proposals and to assist the Director in the identification of areas of the mathematical sciences in which the ICMS should be involved. The Chair, with support from the ICMS, coordinates the Programme Committee activities which include:

- Recommending referees for scientific proposals;
- Assessing referees reports and determining a rank list of fundable proposals for consideration by the Director;
- Reviewing past activity and recommending improvements;
- Considering the funding portfolio and recommending areas for future potential funding;
- Reviewing its own areas of expertise and identifying areas which could be strengthened.

APPOINTMENT OF THE ICMS PROGRAMME COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Chair will be appointed by the ICMS Management Committee on the recommendation of a smaller Nominating Committee.

The ICMS Programme Committee Chair will have a broad range of interests and expertise in research in the mathematical sciences. The Chair will have experience in coordinating activity and will be committed to fair assessment across all areas of the mathematical sciences.

The ICMS is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all. Applications from women, those with a disability and members of minority ethnic groups, who are currently under-represented at senior levels in the research and innovation community, are therefore especially encouraged.

The Chair will be appointed for a period of three years in the first instance.

Responsibilities of Programme Committee Chair:

A fully effective Chair:

- Makes serious commitment to participate actively in Programme Committee business providing timely advice and recommendations;
- Acts as an ambassador/advocate for the ICMS within the international mathematical sciences community;
- Supports, advises and challenges the Director to ensure the high quality of the research programme at the ICMS;
- Operates across the remit of the ICMS rather than as an advocate for specific disciplines or sub-disciplines;
- Actively participates in the Programme Committee's evaluation and planning efforts;
- Highlights opportunities for the ICMS and helps form strategies to act on these opportunities;
- Declares conflicts of interest and is sensitive to the judgement of others in discussions, particularly where a potential conflict arises;
- Is willing and able to provide other *ad hoc* advice and support to the ICMS in the development of policy and practice.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Applications are sought from individuals who possess a range of expertise and experience in research and innovation across the mathematical sciences.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate the following criteria:

Essential

- A commitment to the ICMS's mission and priorities;
- Independence from the UK mathematical sciences community;
- A clear understanding of the current state of mathematical sciences research and the role of interdisciplinary research and the applications of the mathematical sciences;
- An established record of research in the mathematical sciences and an ability to advise on new opportunities within the remit of the ICMS;
- Evidence of providing leadership at a strategic level with an ability to exercise judgment across a broad spectrum of the mathematical sciences and their applications;
- An awareness of barriers to progress and unconscious bias, and a record of promoting inclusivity in research;
- An ability to tackle and reach decisions on complex issues.

Desirable

- Experience of working across international boundaries, particularly with regard to research collaborations and industrial outreach;
- Knowledge of the decision-making process for publicly funded research and the associated strategic issues, for example alternative funding sources;
- Experience of public engagement with research.

EXPENSES

Reasonable expenses for attending Programme Committee meetings will be met by the ICMS.

HOW TO APPLY

If you would like to discuss making an application we recommend that you please contact either the ICMS Centre Manager, Jane Walker (jane.walker@icms.org.uk), or the Director, Minhyong Kim (minhyong.kim@icms.org.uk). To apply, candidates should submit a short CV and covering letter to the ICMS by email to fiona.gilbert@icms.org.uk by end of the day Tuesday 7 June 2022. The covering letter is an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate how they meet the person specification.

Once the deadline has passed, receipt of applications (covering letter and CV) will be acknowledged and then passed to the Nominating Committee (see below) to review the applications against the person specification.

The Chair of the Nominating Committee will make the proposed recommendation of appointments to the ICMS Management Committee. The outcome of the decision will be communicated to candidates in July 2022.

The Programme Committee's next meeting is expected to be 14-15 July 2022.

The Nominating Committee for ICMS committee appointments is:

Helen Wilson, University College London, Chair

Minhyong Kim, Director, ICMS

Jane Walker, ICMS Centre Manager

Katrin Wendland Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg