

European Women in Mathematics and European Mathematical Society
Summer school at the Institut Mittag-Leffler
Guidelines for Proposals

OVERVIEW

The summer school will be held at Institut Mittag-Leffler (IML) in Stockholm in summer 2018. It is being organised by an Oversight Committee (see below) under the auspices of European Women in Mathematics and the European Mathematical Society Women in Mathematics committee, with funding from IML and the support of the EMS.

The summer school should be one week in length. Accommodation and funding have been negotiated for up to 28 participants (including lecturers and organisers). IML will cover accommodation and provide a meal allowance for everyone. Upto 2000 Euro is expected to be available from the EWM for travel expenses. We expect further support for travel from the EMS. In addition applications can be made to the Clay Mathematics Institute for travel expenses and honorarium for speakers.

The aim is to have a school of high scientific quality on a focussed and exciting current mathematical topic. It should be open to PhD students and post-docs of both sexes, but with a high female participation rate (see details below).

Proposals may be sent to referees and the final decision will be made by the Oversight Committee. Improvements or changes may be suggested before a proposal is finally accepted. After the final decision, the successful proposers will then take over the responsibility for organising the school.

The summer school should be advertised via the EWM network and the EMS in addition to any other usual channels.

Proposals should be sent as a pdf file to `secretary@mittag-leffler.se` with a copy to Ulrike Tillmann `tillmann@maths.ox.ac.uk` by 30 July 2017.

GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals (4-6 pages in total) should contain:

- (1) A brief outline of the topic, its mathematical importance and why it is a suitable topic for a summer school.
- (2) Brief details of the organisers' scientific background, current position and expertise.
- (3) Names and details of at least 2 potential invited lecturers with brief reasons for the choice. Note: Potential lecturers should be asked whether in principle they would be willing to participate but no formal commitments should be made until the summer school has been accepted.
- (4) A list of at least some potential participants.

- (5) A brief outline of how the organisers expect to run the program with a sketch timetable showing a mixture of types of session, see details below.
- (6) An explanation of what organisers will do to encourage an inclusive and productive atmosphere and to encourage female participation.
- (7) Suggestions of possible referees.

The topic. We recommend that the topic is quite focussed: some set of inspiring conjectures or breakthrough results, but not entire areas, e.g. “Around the Baum-Connes conjectures” would be better than “Recent Developments in Algebraic Geometry”.

The organisers. Organisers should be mainly women. It is highly desirable, though not essential, to have at least one organiser from a Nordic country. The role of the organisers is likely to extend beyond the usual range of tasks. They are expected to attend and organise the program, and also to raise extra funding as needed. In particular, they are expected to apply to the EMS or other sources for travel funding for the lecturers. Help and advice about this may be given as needed by the Oversight Committee and EWM. Organisers are responsible for the timetable, for the selection of participants, for encouraging a good atmosphere and for ensuring that everything runs smoothly.

The invited lecturers. Since there are only a few invited lecturers, it is crucial that they are very good, both in terms of mathematics and also in the ability to give lectures at the right level. They should not be asked to give more than 5 lectures, and they should not be expected to play either a further role in the organisation, or too large a role in the afternoon sessions. We recommend that at least one and preferably both lecturers be female.

It is open to the organisers to increase the number of lecturers but they will be responsible for finding the additional funding required (both travel and accommodation). Because of constraints on accommodation, this may mean having to decrease the number of participants.

Numbers and dates. Accommodation at IML is strictly limited and any increase in numbers will have to take account of various practicalities. Any additional participants would have to be funded from other sources.

We expect that the summer school will take place in the period June-August 2018. The programs at IML for 2018 are not yet finalised, and the exact date will be settled by discussions between the successful proposers and IML.

Female participation. The successful program will demonstrate a much higher rate of female organisation and participation than usual. Nothing is absolutely required, but we recommend that the organisers be female. Although not essential, efforts should be made

to identify suitable female lecturers if at all possible. Participants will be selected by the organisers and we expect that at least 50% should be female.

Timetable and lectures. It is up to the organisers to devise a suitable timetable. A sketch plan should form part of the proposal. The invited lecturers should not be asked to give more than a maximum of 5 lectures. Since the number of participants and lecturers is rather small, care will be needed to maintain momentum and not to put too much burden on the invited lecturers. To achieve this, here are some ideas:

Further main lectures: Given by organisers or advanced participants. In contravention of usual conventions, at least some of the organisers could give talks.

Lectures by participants: If time allows, all participants could be expected to give a talk which could be either on their research or an introductory talk to some topic closely related to that of the program. They would have to submit a proposed title and abstract as part of their application to join the program. To fit this in, parallel sessions are a possible option.

Poster sessions: If there is not time for all participants to give a talk, then at least they should all present a poster.

Question sessions: Participants would have the chance to ask for more explanations of points in the main lectures. These could also be led by postdocs, and/or questions could be answered by a suitable panel.

Problem sessions: Lecturers or others supply problems designed to enhance the understanding of their lectures on which participants will work either singly or in groups.

Work in small groups: One hour of work in small groups on the topic of a preceding lecture.

Flexible extra sessions: Impromptu sessions arranged by request or as the need becomes apparent, on topics or background material which people want to see in more detail, to be given by any suitable volunteer.

Practicalities and social life. Participants are accommodated in apartments provided by IML. It is desirable to have the school between Monday and Friday; details to be settled with IML. For additional practical details see below.

Social life. It is important to encourage a good informal and inclusive atmosphere. Ideas on how to do this should be included in the proposal. In order for participants to get to know each other quickly, following a pattern at Oberwolfach, we suggest that everyone is asked to send a short bio and description of their research interests before the meeting, so that this information can be collected and distributed to participants on arrival. There

could also be some sort of informal session at which people introduce themselves and their research topic at the start of the meeting.

Other suggestions: It is possible to arrange social evenings in the main building: successful ideas include pizza and wine or movie nights. An excursion can also be planned for the free afternoon(s).

THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Oversight Committee has been set up jointly by EWM and the EMS Women in Mathematics Committee in consultation with IML. It has overall responsibility for this call for programs.

- Chair. Ulrike Tillmann (Oxford, UK) tillmann@maths.ox.ac.uk
(Joint EMS/EWM Scientific Committee)
- Camilla Hollanti (Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland) camilla.hollanti@aalto.fi
(EWM)
- Angela Pistoia (Rome, Italy) angela.pistoia@uniroma1.it (EWM)
- Sandra Pott (Lund, Sweden) sandra@maths.lth.se
- Sandra di Rocco (KTH, Stockholm) dirocco@math.kth.se
- Donna Testerman (Lausanne, CH) donna.testerman@epfl.ch
(EMS WiM Committee)

FURTHER PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Much information about IML can be found on its website <http://www.mittag-leffler.se/>, and information about other programmes and proposals is at <http://www.mittag-leffler.se/conferences-workshops/call-conferences> The following details, which the organisers will need to check at the time as appropriate, may also be helpful.

Location. IML is in Djursholm, a small but very rich suburb of Stockholm. It has many small restaurants and a grocery store. The communication with the city is quick and effective, though with one change: one has to take a bus, then the underground. NB: they do not accept cash on the bus, tickets must be purchased in advance.

Working space and accommodation. The Lecture Room and dining room in the institute have a capacity of 30. There is office space for at most 28. The living accommodation can be for 28 people (to include 10 in shared apartments).

It is also possible for the participants to stay in the city, although being at IML is much more convenient. There is a hotel very close by (5-10 minutes pleasant walk) called Villa Pauli. It is beautiful and very conveniently located, but expensive. There is a new

hotel which is about 7 min away by bus or 25 min walk. It is called Best Western (address Vendevegen 87) and IML has an agreement with it which makes it cheaper. There is another more distant hotel in Djursholm called Näsby Slott & Konferens.

Wifi. Wifi works very well everywhere.

Meals. IML provides breakfasts and lunches in a "Yellow House" where there is a dining room. Dinners are not provided and the participants have to finance dinners themselves. Dinners can be made in ones own kitchen (possibly sharing with other participants), or go to Stockholm to a restaurant, or to one of the restaurants in Djursholm center.

Arrivals. IML has a taxi company they work with. Participants arriving at Arlanda airport can be picked up at the airport on arrival and brought directly to their accommodation. The IML operates a key-system which enables participants to enter apartments outside office hours. The IML will be happy to book taxis also on departure. The cost for one trip is 50 euros to the airport; this is not cheap but by far the most convenient way.

The grocery store near IML is open every day including Sundays 9 am - 9 pm. Restaurants are also open every day until late, but after about 9pm they may no longer take new orders.

Social activities. The IML organises and provides a conference dinner. For additional social activities, here are a few possibilities for excursions:

- a boat trip to Stockholm - easy to organise and very convenient in summer
- the sculpture garden Millesgården www.millesgarden.se
- boat trips on the coast/to the islands (a day may be needed).

NB: The institute staff has little time to assist in the organisation of social events but is happy to help provide suggestions. Some events can be organised ad hoc. For example, there are so many boats during the summer that the group could just meet and go on a trip, without reservation.