

Singapore Mathematical Society

Annual Report 1986

I Membership

Membership in the various categories at the end of 1986 is shown below. The figures in parentheses represent the corresponding figures for 1985:

| | | |
|--------------|-----|-------|
| Honorary: | 6 | (6) |
| Individual: | 164 | (148) |
| Institution: | 28 | (26) |
| Junior: | 27 | (16) |
| Reciprocal: | 2 | (2) |

II Officials

The officials of the Society for 1986 were:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| President: | Prof Lam Lay Yong |
| Vice-Presidents: | Prof Peng Tsu Ann Prof Malcolm Wicks Prof Leonard Yap Yau Hock |
| Honorary Secretary: | Dr Cheng Kai Nah |
| Honorary Treasurer: | Dr Chew Tuan Seng |
| Editor: | Dr Leong Yu Kiang |
| Assistant Secretary: | Dr Tay Yong Chiang |
| Assistant Editors: | Prof Chong Chi Tat Prof Koh Khee Meng |
| Committee Members: | Dr Jon Berrick Mr Chan Onn Prof Chen Chuan Chong Mr Liew Mai Heng |

Dr Yap Kim Yew was the Honorary Auditor.

III Activities of the Society during the year 1986

1. Publications

Two issues of Mathematical Medley were published: Volume 13, Number 1 (July 1985) and Number 2 (December 1985). "An Interview with Jean-Pierre Serre" which appeared in the former issue was reprinted in the Mathematical Intelligencer Vol. 8 No. 4 (1986).

2. Lectures

The following five lectures were organised during the year. The Presidential Address (item (a)) was delivered at the Society's 19th Annual General Meeting and Professor Hiroshi Nagao gave the lecture (item (d)) at the prize-giving ceremony of the Interschool Mathematical Competition. The remaining lectures were organised jointly with the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore.

| Date | Title | Speaker |
|--------------------|--|--|
| (a) 19 March 1986 | The development of polynomial equations in traditional China | Prof Lam Lay Yong National University of Singapore |
| (b) 26 March 1986 | 60 years of mathematics | Prof K.A. Hirsch University of London |
| (c) 20 June 1986 | Alfred Haar and his measure | Prof Edwin Hewitt University of Washington |
| (d) 29 August 1986 | Counting arguments | Prof Hiroshi Nagao Osaka University |
| (e) 1 October 1986 | Undecidability and Intractability: the inherent limits to the ability of computers | Prof J.E. Stern Ecole Polytechnique and Universite de Caen |

3. Conferences

The Society was a joint organiser of the following two conferences held at the National University of Singapore:

(i) Australia-Singapore Joint Conference 1986 (19-23 May 1986)

The Conference, on information processing and combinatorial mathematics, was attended by 69 participants from 16 countries. The invited speakers were Professors M. Behzad, E.J. Cockayne, G. Cohen, R.B. Eggleton, B. McKay, C. Praeger, H.H. Teh and Zhong Ji. Nine one-hour invited lectures and thirty-one 20-minute papers were delivered during the Conference. The proceedings of the Conference would be published by Charles Babbage Research Centre, Canada.

(ii) Analysis Conference Singapore 1986 (17-21 June 1986)

The Conference, with emphasis on harmonic analysis and functional analysis, was jointly organised with the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore in conjunction with the Singapore National Academy of Science. It was preceded by a workshop (12-16 June) conducted by Professors S. Igari, A. Miyachi and G. Pisier. The invited speakers were Professors E. Hewitt, S. Igari, A. Miyachi, G. Pisier and J.J. Uhl Jr. The Conference was attended by 79 people from 18 countries. The proceedings of the Conference would be published by the North Holland Publishing Company.

IV Interschool Mathematical Competition 1986

The annual interschool mathematical competition organised by the Society took place on 28 June 1986 at Hwa Chong Junior College. A total of 256 students from 10 junior colleges and 41 secondary schools participated in the competition. The results were as follows:

Team Results

| Position | School | Team Members |
|----------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | Hwa Chong Junior College | Loke Hung Yean Chin Po Shin Chan Hock Peng |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 2 | Hwa Chong Junior College | Ho Kok Sun Yeo Boon Lock Lam Kai Wah |
| 2 | Victoria Junior College | Ng Peck Yong Wee Boon Siong Wong Liang Chin |
| 4 | Anderson Junior College | See Buck Thye Tan Too Hock Lim Yong How |

Individual Results

| Position | Competitor | School |
|----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Lam Kai Wah | Hwa Chong Junior College |
| 2 | Chin Po Shin | Hwa Chong Junior College |
| 2 | Chan Hock Peng | Hwa Chong Junior College |
| 4 | Ng Hoi Wee, Avis | National Junior College |
| 5 | Wong Liang Chin | Victoria Junior College |
| 5 | Tan Too Hock | Anderson Junior College |
| 5 | Ng Peck Yong | Victoria Junior College |

Hwa Chong Junior College was awarded the Singapore Mathematical Society Challenge Shield. Lam Kai Wah was awarded the Southeast Asia Mathematical Society Prize.

The prize-giving ceremony was held on 29 August 1986 at Lecture Theatre 21, Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore. Professor Hiroshi Nagao of Osaka University gave away the prizes.

The Competition Subcommittee consisted of Dr Leong Yu Kiang (Chairman), Prof Chen Chuan Chong, Prof Koh Khee Meng, Dr Tay Tiong Seng and Dr Tay Yong Chiang, and was assisted administratively by Mr Chan Onn and Mr Liew Mai Heng.

A grant of \$1400 had been received from the Ministry of Education to support the above event.

V International Mathematical Olympiad 1988

A subcommittee comprising Prof C.C. Chen (Chairman), Mr Chan Onn, Prof K. M. Koh, Dr Y.K. Leong, Mr M.H. Liew and Dr Y.C. Tay was set up to assist the Ministry of Education in the selection and training of students to take part in the International Mathematical Olympiad 1988 to be held in Australia. A total of 599 students from secondary three and secondary four levels sat for a selection test on 5 December 1986. The 48 students selected are currently attending weekly training sessions under the supervision of Mr Chan and Mr Liew. It is envisaged that eventually 6 to 8 students would be selected to take part in the competition.

VI School Subcommittee

Members of the Subcommittee were: Mr Liew Mai Heng (Chairman), Miss Kuo Wei Chuang (Secretary), Miss Chung Yam Yoke (Treasurer), Mr Ho Foo Him, Mr Leuar Boon Char and Miss Chan Bee Bee.

During the year the following activities were organised:

1. Talks at schools and junior colleges

| Title | Speaker | School/Junior College |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Prime numbers | Dr Cheng Kai Nah | Nanyang Girls High School |
| Number Theory and its applications | Prof Chong Chi Tat | Catholic High School Hwa Chong Junior College |
| What is applicable mathematics | Prof Lee Peng Yee | National Junior College |
| An introduction to mathematical statistics | Dr Lou Jiann Hua | River Valley High School |

2. A workshop on numerical analysis and its teaching

The one-day workshop held on 9 September 1986 was jointly organised with the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore. The invited speakers were Dr R.P. Agarwal, Dr Chow Yoong Ming, Dr T.R.

Nanda and Dr Peter C.T. Tung. There were more than 100 participants consisting mainly of teachers from junior colleges.

VII Finance

This item is dealt with in the Treasurer's report. The Society wishes to record its thanks to the Honorary Auditor, Dr Yap Kim Yew, for scrutinizing the accounts.

VIII Acknowledgements

The Committee of the Society wishes to express its thanks to the Lee Kong Chian Centre for Mathematical Research for its continued financial support; to the Tan Kah Kee Foundation for its donation; to the Ministry of Education for its grant to the Interschool Mathematical Competition; to the Singapore National Academy of Science for its grant to the Analysis Conference Singapore 1986; to Southeast Asian Mathematical Society for the SEAMS prize of the Interschool Mathematical Competition; to Hwa Chong Junior College for the use of its school facilities for the Competition and to the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore for its unfailing support and cooperation.

24 February 1987