

Singapore Mathematical Society

Annual Report 1987

I Membership

Membership in the various categories at the end of 1987 is shown below. The figures in the parentheses represent the corresponding figures for 1986:

Honorary:	6	(6)
Individual:	163	(164)
Institution:	27	(28)
Junior:	32	(17)
Reciprocal:	2	(2)

II Officials

The officials of the Society for 1987 were:

President:	Prof Peng Tsu Ann
Vice-Presidents:	Prof Chen Chuan Chong Prof Louis Chen Hsiao Yun Prof Lam Lay Yong
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Cheng Kai Nah
Honorary Treasurer:	Dr Chew Tuan Seng
Editor:	Dr Tay Yong Chiang
Assistant Secretary:	Dr Tan Sie Keng
Assistant Editors:	Prof Chong Chi Tat Dr Leong Yu Kiang
Committee Members:	Dr Chow Yoong Ming Prof Koh Khee Meng Mr Leuar Boon Char Mr Yeo Kwee Poo

III Activities of the Society during the year 1987

1. Publications

Four issues of Mathematical Medley were published: Volume 14, Number 1 (June 1986) and Number 2 (December 1986) and Volume 15, Number 1 (June 1987) and Number 2 (December 1987).

2. Lectures

The following five lectures were organised during the year. The Presidential Address (item (a)) was delivered at the Society's 20th Annual General Meeting and Professor John G Thompson gave the lecture (item (d)) at the prize-giving ceremony of the Interschool Mathematical Competition. The remaining three lectures were organised jointly with the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore.

Date	Title	Speaker
(a) 20 March 1987	The Chinese Rod Numeral Legacy and its Impact on Mathematics	Prof Lam Lay Yong National University of Singapore
(b) 3 April 1987	The Geometry of Module Extensions	Prof K W Gruenberg University of London
(c) 7 April 1987	The Reflection Principle and Hearing the Shape of a Drum	Prof D O Siegmund Stanford University
(d) 13 August 1987	Archimedes and Continued Fractions	Prof J G Thompson University of Cambridge
(e) 11 December 1987	Survey on the Theory of Value-Distribution	Prof Yang Lo Academia Sinica Beijing

3. Conference

The Singapore Group Theory Conference, jointly organised by the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore and the Society was held from 8 to 19 June 1987 at the National University of Singapore.

The Conference was attended by 138 participants from 25 countries. A three-day workshop (8 - 10 June) was conducted by Professors O H Kegel, D J S Robinson and J-P Serre. The invited speakers at the Conference were Professors S I Adian, M Broué, J J Cannon, W Feit, K W

Gruenberg, B Hartley, G Higman, N Ito, O H Kegel, A I Kostrikin, B H Neumann, D J S Robinson, J-P Serre, M Suzuki and J G Thompson.

Altogether 17 one-hour invited lectures and 47 thirty-minute contributed papers were delivered at the Conference. The proceedings of the Conference will be published by Walter de Gruyter & Co.

4. *Talks at schools and junior colleges and workshop for teachers*

Details will appear in item VI below.

IV Interschool Mathematical Competition 1987

The annual Interschool Mathematical Competition organised by the Society was held on 27 June 1987 at the Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore. A total of 327 students from 11 junior colleges and 44 secondary schools took part in the competition. The results were as follows:

Team Results

Position	School	Team Members
1	Hwa Chong Junior College (Team 1)	Chan Hock Peng Ngan Ngiap Teng Ng Kien Meng
2	Hwa Chong Junior College (Team 2)	Chua Soon Wah Ng Tong Jin Lim Jing Yee
3	National Junior College (Team 2)	Cham Tat Jen Low Ka Hoe Cheong Kok Wui
3	Raffles Institution (Team 1)	Yeoh Yong Yeow Lee Mun Yew Lam Vui Chiap

Position	School	Team Members
3	Temasek Junior College (Team 1)	Li Ronghan Li Hansheng Lian Chengshun
3	Victoria Junior College (Team 1)	Yeo Boon Wooi, Joseph Goh Wee Lian Wan Hamzah bin Abdul Aziz

Individual Results

Position	Competitor	School
1	Chan Hock Peng	Hwa Chong Junior College
1	Ngan Ngiap Teng	Hwa Chong Junior College
3	Lim Jing Yee	Hwa Chong Junior College
3	Low Teng Yong	Victoria Junior College
3	Wey Lead	Hwa Chong Junior College

The Singapore Mathematical Society Challenge Shield was won by Hwa Chong Junior College, which would keep the shield permanently for having won it for three consecutive years. Chan Hock Peng and Ngan Ngiap Teng were jointly awarded the Southeast Asia Mathematical Society Prize. Yeoh Yong Yeow of Raffles Institution was awarded a prize for being the best competitor from the secondary schools; this was a newly created prize to be awarded to a secondary school participant of sufficient merit.

The prize-giving ceremony was held on 13 August 1987 at Lecture Theatre 23, Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore. Professor J G Thompson of the University of Cambridge gave away the prizes.

The Competition Subcommittee consisted of Dr Leong Yu Kiang (Chairman), Prof Chen Chuan Chong, Prof Koh Khee Meng, Dr Tay

Yong Chiang, and was assisted administratively by Mr Chan Onn and Mr Liew Mai Heng.

A grant of \$1800 was received from the Ministry of Education for the above event.

V International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 1988/89

A subcommittee comprising Prof Chen Chuan Chong (Chairman), Mr Chan Onn, Prof Koh Khee Meng, Mr Liew Mai Heng and Dr Tay Yong Chiang was set up in 1986 to assist the Ministry of Education in the selection and training of students for IMO 1988 to be held in Australia. Forty-eight students selected for training took part in weekly assignments, lectures and tutorials during the first half of the year, and a training camp was held in June 1987. The annual Interschool Mathematical Competition served as a second selection test and 25 students were selected. A subcommittee consisting of Prof Chen Chuan Chong (Chairman), Prof Koh Khee Meng, Dr Leong Yu Kiang, Mr Leuar Boon Char, Dr Fred P F Leung, Dr T R Nanda, Dr Tay Yong Chiang and Mr Yeo Kwee Poo was formed later in the year (1987) to replace the above subcommittee. Training for the IMO 1988 Singapore team is continuing, and a selection test for an IMO 1989 team was held in December 1987.

VI Teacher Subcommittee

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

During the year the following activities were organised:

1. Talks at schools and junior colleges

Speaker	Title	School/Junior College
Prof Koh Khee Meng	The Postman Problem	National Junior College
Prof Lam Lay Yong	The Chinese Rod Numerals and Our Numerals	Chinese High School

Speaker	Title	School/Junior College
Prof Lee Peng Yee	Doing Algebra via Geometry	National Junior College
	What is Applicable Mathematics?	River Valley High School
Dr Leong Yu Kiang	The Geometry of Ornamental Design	Raffles Institution

2. *A workshop on hypothesis testing and non-parametric statistics*

The one-day workshop held on 7 September 1987 was jointly organised with the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore. The invited speakers were Dr Chan Yiu Man, Prof Louis H Y Chen, Dr Ling Kiong Doong and Dr Rosalind L P Phang. There were 115 participants most of whom were 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 Fred P F Leung, 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 Ministry of Education for its grant to the Interschool Mathematical Competition; to Southeast Asian Mathematical Society for the SEAMS prize of the Interschool Mathematical Competition; and to the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore for its unfailing support and cooperation.

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