The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic
Volume 14, Number 3, Sept. 2008

NOTICES

- In Memoriam: Andrej Muchnik. Andrej Muchnik, one of the most talented Russian mathematical logicians and computer scientists of his generation, died in Moscow on March 18, 2007.

  He was born in Moscow into a family of mathematicians—Albert Muchnik (of the Friedberg-Muchnik Theorem) and Nadezhda Ermolaeva—and studied at Moscow State University. His master's thesis advisor was Alexey Semenov, which started a lifelong collaboration and friendship. Muchnik's master's thesis contained a new proof of Rabin's theorem on the decidability of the monadic second order theory of two successors that eliminated transfinite induction.

  He worked at first in language theory and logic before concentrating his attention on algorithmic information theory. Muchnik developed some game-theoretic and probabilistic tools that allowed him to prove several results, including the conditional codes theorem, the algorithmic counterpart of the Slepian-Wolf Theorem.

  Muchnik strongly believed in God and in the consistency of the world around us. He always sought to find and follow the unique correct way of doing things, which could sometimes cause practical complications. His desire to see his ideas written down perfectly usually postponed their publication for many years, until friends or coauthors stepped in to help with writing; he formally received his Ph.D. degree only in 2001, when he was quite well known internationally.

  Muchnik was an active and uniquely gifted participant and leader in the "Kolmogorov seminar" at Moscow State University. Many of the most interesting results obtained by seminar participants were obtained by him or arose from his ideas. He was always ready to share his thoughts about mathematics. In 2006 he shared the Kolmogorov Prize of the Russian Academy of Sciences with Semenov.

  Andrej Muchnik's sudden death is a great loss both for the Moscow theoretical computer science and mathematical logic community and, more personally for all his colleagues and friends.

- 2008 Sacks Prize. The ASL invites nominations for the 2008 Sacks Prize for the most outstanding doctoral dissertation in mathematical logic. Nominations must be received by September 30, 2008. The Sacks Prize was established to honor Professor Gerald Sacks of MIT and Harvard for his unique contribution to mathematical logic, particularly as adviser to a large number of excellent Ph.D. students. The Prize was first awarded in 1994 and became an ASL Prize in 1999. The Fund on which the Prize is based is now administered by the ASL and the selection of the recipient is made by the ASL Committee on Prizes and Awards. The Sacks Prize will consist of a cash award plus five years free membership in the ASL. For general information about the Prize, visit `http://www.aslonline.org/info-prizes.html`.

  Anyone who wishes to make a nomination for the 2008 Sacks Prize should consult the webpage `http://www.aslonline.org/Sacks_nominations.html` for the precise details of the application process. A brief summary of the procedure is provided below.

  Students who defend their dissertations (equivalent to the American doctoral dissertation) between October 1, 2007, and September 30, 2008, are eligible for the Prize this year. This is an international prize, with no restriction on the nationality of the candidate or the university where the doctorate is granted. Nominations should be made by the thesis adviser, and consist of: name of student, title and 1–2 page description of dissertation, date and location where the doctorate was awarded, letter of recommendation from the adviser, and an electronic copy of the thesis in .pdf or .ps form, or the address of a web site from which an electronic copy in .pdf or .ps form can be downloaded. An independent second letter of recommendation is strongly encouraged. Nominations should be sent to the Committee Chair, Julia Knight; .pdf or .ps files sent as attachments by email to `Julia.F.Knight.1@nd.edu` are preferred. The form of such letters and other pertinent details can be found at the web site above, and need to be read prior to submitting a nomination. Correspondence should be addressed to Julia Knight, Department of Mathematics, University of Notre Dame, 255 Hurley Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556-4618 USA.

Those wishing to contribute to the Sacks Prize Fund may send contributions to the ASL office (ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604). All such contributions are tax-deductible within the USA.

- Call for Proposals: 2011 Annual Meeting. The ASL Committee on Meetings in North America requests proposals for the 2011 ASL Annual meeting, to be held sometime in the first five months of 2011. The committee seeks a university somewhere in North America and a local committee to host the meeting and handle the local arrangements. The ASL meetings ordinarily cycle geographically in the pattern: West (Irvine 2008), Midwest (Notre Dame 2009), East (Washington, DC 2010). Thus, for 2011 the committee seeks a location in the West. Any reasonable proposal, however, will be considered. For more information, interested parties should contact the Committee Chair, Jeremy Avigad (email: `avigad@cmu.edu`) no later than November 1, 2008.

- Call for Proposals: 2010 AMS-ASL Joint Special Session. The ASL Committee on Meetings in North America requests proposals for an AMS-ASL Joint Special Session to be held at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Francisco, January 6–9, 2010. Proposals or requests for further information should be sent to the Committee Chair, Jeremy Avigad (email: `avigad@cmu.edu`). The deadline for receipt of proposals is January 16, 2009.

- New Member Benefit: *The Review of Symbolic Logic*. Beginning in 2008, individual ASL members will receive the new ASL journal, *The Review of Symbolic Logic*, as an additional benefit of membership. Publication of the *RSL* by Cambridge University Press will commence in June 2008, and members should receive the first issue shortly thereafter.

  Joining *The Journal of Symbolic Logic* and *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* as the third official organ of the Association, the *RSL* will publish research papers in: philosophical and non-classical logics and their applications; history and philosophy of logic; and philosophy and methodology of mathematics.

  For more information about the *RSL*, including a complete listing of the its founding Editors and Advisory Board, visit `http://www.aslonline.org/journals-review.html`.

- ASL Newsletter via Email in September 2008. Beginning in September 2008, the ASL Newsletter will be sent by email to all members for whom the ASL has email addresses and who do not specifically request to be sent the printed version. Details on how to exercise this “opt out” privilege and to verify that the email address that the ASL has is correct were distributed with the 2008 membership renewal form and with the January and April Newsletter mailings, and can be obtained by contacting the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Tel: 1-845-437-7080; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`.

- Reduced Dues for Individuals and Institutions in Developing Economies. The ASL offers reduced dues for individual and institutional members in developing economies. For 2008, the reduced dues are US$18 for individuals and US$130 for institutional members. These dues apply to individuals and institutions residing in countries whose economies are classified as 'lower middle income' or below on the World Bank's annual list. For further information, visit http://www.aslonline.org/membership_outreach.html or contact the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Tel: 1-845-437-7080; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@vassar.edu.

- REDUCED DUES FOR UNEMPLOYED MEMBERS. The ASL now offers reduced dues for individual members who are unemployed. For 2008, the reduced dues are US$38. For further information, visit http://www.aslonline.org/membership-individual.html or contact the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Tel: 1-845-437-7080; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@vassar.edu.

- BOOK AND JOURNAL DISCOUNTS FOR ASL MEMBERS. Several publishers now offer discounts on books and journals to ASL members. For a detailed description of these discounts, visit http://www.aslonline.org/members-discounts.html on the ASL website, or write to the ASL Business Office.

- SPECIAL SALE OF ASL BOOKS. For a limited time, the ASL is making available the following volumes from its book series at an additional discount.

  Lecture Notes in Logic (each volume $12 for ASL members, $16 for non-members): LNL vol. 11, *Logic Colloquium '95*; *Proceedings of the Annual European Summer Meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic, held in Haifa, Israel, August* 9-18, 1995; LNL vol. 12, *Logic Colloquium '96*; *Proceedings of the Colloquium held in San Sebastian, Spain, July* 9-15, 1996.

  Perspectives in Logic (each volume $18 for ASL members, $24 for non-members): *Essential Stability Theory* by S. Buechler; *Metamathematics of First Order Arithmetic* by P. Hajek and P. Pudlak.

  To order these volumes, contact the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave- nue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Tel: 1-845-437-7080; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@vassar.edu.

- STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS: THE 2009 ASL ANNUAL MEETING, 2009 ASL EUROPEAN SUMMER MEETING, AND OTHER ASL OR ASL-SPONSORED MEETINGS. The ASL will make available modest travel awards to graduate students in logic and (for the European Summer Meeting only) to recent Ph.D.'s so that they may attend the 2009 ASL Annual Meeting in Notre Dame, Indiana, or the 2009 ASL European Summer Meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria; see below for information about these meetings. Student members of the ASL also may apply for travel grants to other ASL or ASL-sponsored meetings. To be considered for a Travel Award, please (1) send a letter of application, and (2) ask your thesis supervisor to send a brief recommendation letter. The application letter should be brief (preferably one page) and should include: (1) your name; (2) your home institution; (3) your thesis supervisor's name; (4) a one-paragraph description of your studies and work in logic, *and, in the case of an ASL student member application to attend an ASL or ASL-sponsored meeting other than the Annual Meeting or European Summer Meeting*, a paragraph indicating why it is important to attend the meeting; (5) your estimate of the travel expenses you will incur; (6) (for citizens or residents of the USA) citizenship or visa status; and (7) (voluntary) indication of your gender and minority status. Women and members of minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply. In addition to funds provided by the ASL, the program of travel grants to the ASL Annual Meeting and the European Summer Meeting is supported by a grant from the US National Science Foundation; NSF funds may be awarded only to students at USA universities and to citizens and permanent residents of the USA. Air travel paid for using NSF funds must be on a US flag carrier. Application by email is encouraged; put "ASL travel application" in the subject line of your message.

  For the 2009 ASL Annual Meeting, applications and recommendations should be received before the deadline of March 9, 2009, by the Program Chair: A. Urquhart, Department of Computer Science, Sandford Fleming Bldg., 10 King's College Rd., Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 3G4, CANADA; Fax: 416-978-8703; email: `urquhart@cs.toronto.edu`. Applications by email are preferred.

For the 2009 ASL European Summer Meeting, applications and recommendations should be received before the deadline of March 30, 2009, by the Organizing Committee: Logic Colloquium 2009, Department of Mathematical Logic, Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, Sofia University, 5 James Bourchier Blvd., 1164 Sofia, Bulgaria; email: `lc2009@fmi.uni-sofia.bg`.

For ASL student member travel grants to other ASL or ASL-sponsored meetings, applications and recommendations should be received at least three months prior to the meeting at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`. Decisions will be communicated at least two months prior to the meeting.

- 2008-09 ASL WINTER MEETING (WITH APA). *December* 27–30, 2008, *Philadelphia*, *Pennsylvania*. This meeting will be held jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association. The program to date includes two invited sessions. For the first, a panel on *Historical Ideals of Rigor in Mathematics*, the invited speakers are: J. Folina, D. Jesseph, and D. Schlimm. The second invited panel, on *Visual Reasoning in Mathematics*, includes the following speakers: E. Grosholz, K. Manders, and S.-J. Shin. The members of the Program Committee are W. Ewald (Chair), J. Floyd, and M. Hallett.

- 2008-09 ASL WINTER MEETING (WITH JOINT MATHEMATICS MEETINGS). *January* 5–8, 2009, *Washington*, *DC*. This meeting will take place in conjunction with the Joint Mathematics Meetings. The members of the Program Committee are A. Enayat (Chair), S. Thomas, and R. Weber.

- 2009 ASL ANNUAL MEETING. *May* 20–23, 2009, *Notre Dame*, *Indiana*. The members of the Program Committee are: R. Heck, W. Henson, J. Knight, R. Moosa, A. Urquhart (Chair), and M. Zeman. The members of the Local Organizing Committee include: T. Bays, P. Blanchette, S. Buechler, P. Cholak, M. Detlefsen (Co-chair), C. Franks, J. Knight, and S. Starchenko (Co-chair). Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts must be received by the deadline of February 9, 2009, at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`.

- 2009 ASL EUROPEAN SUMMER MEETING (LOGIC COLLOQUIUM '09). *July* 31–*August* 5, 2009, *Sofia*, *Bulgaria*. The Program Committee includes: S. Abramsky, K. Ambos-Spies, J. Bagaria (Chair), F. Ferreira, M. Goldstern, E. Grädel, E. Hrushovski, T. Hyttinen, Y. Moschovakis, M. Otero, S. Shapiro, I. Soskov, and W.H. Woodin. The Local Organizing Committee includes: D. Dobrev, D. Guelev, L. Ivanov, S. Nikolova, S. Passy, A. Soskova (Chair), M. Soskova, M. Yanchev, and A. Zinoviev.

  Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts—hard copy or email—should be received before the deadline of April 15, 2009 at the official meeting address: Logic Colloquium 2009, Department of Mathematical Logic, Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, Sofia University, 5 James Bourchier Blvd., 1164 Sofia, Bulgaria; email: `lc2009@fmi.uni-sofia.bg`.

- RULES FOR ABSTRACTS. The rules for abstracts of contributed talks at ASL meetings (including those submitted "by title") may be found at the website `http://www.aslonline.org/rules_abstracts.html`. *The rules were recently revised and all authors who wish to submit abstracts are urged to consult the new rules*. Please note that abstracts *must* follow the rules as set forth there; those which do not conform to the requirements will be returned immediately to the authors submitting them. Revised abstracts that follow the rules will be considered if they are received by the announced deadline.

- International Conference on Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design (FMCAD 2008). *November* 17-20, 2008, *Portland, Oregon*. This event, the eighth in a series on the theory and application of formal methods in hardware and system design and verification, provides a forum for researchers and practitioners in academia and industry. The Co-chairs of the Program Committee are A. Cimatti and R. Jones. For further information, visit `http://fmcad.org/2008`.
- International Conference on Logic for Programming Artificial Intelligence and Reasoning (LPAR 2008). *November* 23–27, 2008, *Doha, Qatar.* The invited speakers include: M. Backes, E. Clarke, T. Eiter, and A. Pnuelir. The General Chair is I. Cervesato; the Program Co-Chairs are I. Cervesato and A. Voronkov; and the Workshop Chair is L. Kovács. The Local Arrangements Chair is T. Sans. For further information, visit `http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/lpar08`.
- Twenty-fourth International Conference on Logic Programming (ICLP'08). *December* 9–13, 2008, *Udine, Italy.* This conference series is the premier international event for presenting research in logic programming. The General Chair is A. Dovier; the Program Co-Chairs are M. Garcia de la Banda and E. Pontelli; and the Workshop Chair is T.C. Son. The members of the Local Organizing Committee include: A. Casagrande, E. De Maria, L. Di Gaspero, and C. Piazza. For further information, visit `http://iclp08.dimi.uniud.it`.