

ICMI Column

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Renewal of the ICMI Executive Committee

The new ICMI Executive Committee was elected during the ICMI General Assembly, which took place on 24 July just before ICME 13 in Hamburg (Germany).

This new committee (below) will be in service from 1 January 2017 for four years.

President:	Jill Adler	(South Africa)
Vice-Presidents:	Merrylin Goos	(Australia)
	Luis Radford	(Canada)
Secretary General:	Abraham Arcavi	(Israel)
Members-at-large:	Xu Binyan	(China)
	Jean-Luc Dorier	(Switzerland)
	Zahra Gooya	(Iran)
	Anita Rampal	(India)
	Yuriko Yamamoto Baldin	(Brazil)

Moreover, the Ex-President of the ICMI Ferdinando Arzarello (Italy), as well as IMU President Shigefumi Mori (Japan) and Secretary Helge Holden (Norway), are members ex-officio.

Alicia Dickenstein (Argentina), Vice-President of the IMU, is the liaison for the ICMI.

13th International Congress on Mathematical Education in Hamburg – the biggest ICME so far

About 3,500 participants from 105 countries participated in the 13th International Congress on Mathematical Education, which took place 24–31 July 2016 at the University of Hamburg and the Hamburg Congress Centre, making it the biggest congress in world congress series so far. ICME-13 was hosted by the Society of Didactics of Mathematics (Gesellschaft für Didaktik der Mathematik – GDM) and took place under the auspices of the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction (ICMI). The German community is the first international mathematics educational community to host an ICME more than once; as early as 1976, the Third International Congress took place in Karlsruhe (Germany). For this special event, a thematic afternoon took place devoted to describing development over the last 40 years with a European and historical perspective. The presentations focused on European didactic traditions, German-speaking traditions in mathematics education research and the legacy of Felix Klein.

At the opening ceremony, awards of the ICMI were presented to Michèle Artigue and Alan Bishop (Felix-Klein award), Jill Adler and Frederick Leung (Hans-Freudenthal award) and Hugh Burkhardt and Malcolm Swan (Emma-Castelnuovo award).

The heart of the congress took the form of 54 topic study groups, devoted to major themes of mathematics education, in which about 745 presentations were given.

In attached oral communications, around 931 shorter papers were presented, complemented by 533 posters presented in two sessions. A large variety of other activities also took place, such as two plenary panels, four plenary lectures and 64 invited lectures. Initiated by congress participants, 38 discussion groups and 42 workshops were offered. Reflecting specific ICMI traditions, five ICMI survey teams described the state-of-the-art on their themes and three ICMI studies were also presented, in addition to six national presentations.

About 230 scholars from less affluent countries were supported by solidarity grants, making up a considerable proportion of the congress budget.

In addition, special activities for teachers held in German were attended by 250 teachers from all over Germany, despite the school vacation having already begun. Before the congress, an Early Career Researcher Day was offered, tackling specific themes for this group. A large number of early career researchers (450) participated in this congress, which made it a particular asset for ICME-13.

ICME-13 was clouded by the dramatic political events in Turkey; out of 100 registered participants, only 17 could come. However, about 45 were able to give their presentations via video and nine posters were presented. At the closing ceremony, the congress participants expressed their solidarity with the mathematics educators in Turkey by adopting a solidarity address.