

Dear Colleagues,

The CIB is pleased to announce the semester program "Local representation theory and simple groups" organized by Radha Kessar (City University London), Gunter Malle (TU Kaiserslautern) and Donna Testerman (EPFL). The semester will take place at the CIB-EPFL, Switzerland from 1 July to 31 December, 2016.

The program of the semester is structured around three workshops and one final conference. Two or three colloquium-style Bernoulli lectures will take place during the semester. In between the conferences, a small number of scientists will be in residence at the CIB, thus providing the opportunity for intensive collaborations.

Semester description:

Local representation theory, pioneered by Richard Brauer in the 1930s had its first big successes in the classification of the finite simple groups. Since then, important and deep connections to areas as varied as topology, geometry, Lie theory and homological algebra have been discovered and used. Very recent breakthrough results have now led to the hope that some of the long standing and deep problems, some of which have been open for over five decades, can finally be settled.

These recent results relied crucially on the interplay between the theory of modular representations, the classification of finite simple groups, and Lusztig's powerful geometric machinery built around the Weil conjectures which describes the representation theory of finite reductive groups. At the same time, this has led to a wealth of interesting new questions on finite simple groups and their representation theory, whose solution promises to be useful for many further applications.

The main theme of the program will be to exploit further this interaction between the aim of eventually solving some of the famous open conjectures, and developing and applying the representation theory of finite simple groups.

If you are interested in participating in the workshops or conferences, you are welcome to sign-up online to the events. Information is available on cib.epfl.ch and will be updated on a regular basis.

Registration forms are already open for both the July Introductory Workshop and the Advanced Lectures. If you are interested in spending some time at the CIB during the semester program outside of the dates of the workshops and conferences, please contact one of the organizers (indicating your desired length of stay, provisional dates, and financial resources). Junior career scientists are strongly invited to apply and participate in this program.

July events:

Introductory workshop on the representation theory of finite groups:

11 - 15 July 2016

All info and sign-up form here:

<http://cib.epfl.ch/PublicEvent.php?event=1110>

Advanced lectures on local representation theory: 18 - 29 July 2016

All info and sign-up form here:

<http://cib.epfl.ch/PublicEvent.php?event=1111>

With best regards,

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Rana GHERZEDDINE

Coordinator

EPFL SB CIB - GE

BI B0 472

Station 7

CH - 1015 Lausanne

Tel.: + 41 21 693 03 61

Fax : + 41 21 693 03 40

bernoulli.epfl.ch