

EUROPEAN WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS

10th International meeting of EWM

August 24-30, 2001, Malta

Brief Report

The 10th International Meeting of the EWM took place in Sliema, Malta, 24-30 August, 2001. There were 65 participants from outside of Malta, and 11 participants from Malta, giving a total of 76 participants coming from 21 countries and 4 continents.



The conference took place at the Plaza Hotel, where most of the participants were housed, except for two lectures which were given at the University of Malta in Msida. There were 5 main sessions: 3 EMS lectures given by Michele Vergne; the pure session on **cohomology theories** with 2 main lectures (Chiara de Fabritiis and Yukari Ito) and one short contribution (Barbara Fantechi); the applied session on **mathematics applied to finance** with 3 main lectures (Francine Diener, Monique Pontier and Nadine Bellamy); the inter-disciplinary session on **the uses of geometry** with 3 main lectures (Asia Weiss, Xenia de la Ossa and Caroline Series) and one short contribution (Konstanze Rietsch); and the socio-political session on **mathematics outside the classroom** with 2 main lectures (Mireille Chaleyat-Maurel and Claudine Hermann) and one short contribution (Rosa-Maria Spitaleri). There were in addition two short contributed talks (Sabine Schiller and Bettina Rehberg). There were 3 poster sessions, comprising some 35 posters. Also there was a report by Ina Kersten and Emilia Mezzetti on the EMS Questionnaire Project. Irene Sciriha gave us a lesson in Maltese, which generated a lot of interest in the local culture.



The EWM General Meeting took place in the afternoon of 26th August. The new Standing Committee was elected, with Ljudmila Bordag as Convenor. Some members of the Organizing Committee were also elected, the remaining vacancies to be filled later once the place for the next meeting in 2003 is decided. Topics for that meeting and also for workshops in the even years were discussed. Regional coordinators were elected. The usual business was successfully conducted.

A day trip to Gozo was organized for participants and accompanying persons on Tuesday 28th August.

We received financial support from the EU (reference HPAM-2000-00051) and the EMS. An application to UNESCO (UVO-ROSTE) is still pending. In addition we received material and personnel assistance from the University of Malta. Ms Annabelle Attard from their mathematics department supplied much needed secretarial help. Air Malta was the official carrier. World Scientific Publishing Company (Singapore) and Discovery Bookstore (Malta) donated material and offered discount on their books. The staff at the Plaza Hotel was very helpful to us throughout the meeting.

The meeting provided plenty of opportunity for participants to renew friendships and make new ones. There were a lot of small discussion groups, mathematical and otherwise. In particular, there was a spontaneously generated round-table on the ethics of using mathematics in finance, which was indeed very timely. A small group of mathematicians and physicists with common interest in the areas of geometry and topology applied to quantum field theory and string theory was formed to promote better networking.



Members of the Organizing Committee were: Christine Bessenrodt (Germany), Laura Fainsilber (Sweden), Tatiana Ivanova (Russia), Emilia Mezzetti (Italy), Marie-Francoise Roy (France), Irene Sciriha (Malta), and Tsou Sheung Tsun (United Kingdom). The editors for the proceedings are Emilia Mezzetti and Sylvie Paycha.

*Tsou Sheung Tsun,
Oxford, 04.09.01*