

Proposal to the LMS for future YRM activities and affiliation

Aims:

1. **YRM conference.** To secure a position for an annual conference aimed at mathematics graduate students in the UK continuing the work of the two YRM conferences held in 2009 and 2010 at Cambridge, and to be held in 2011 at Warwick.
2. **Further activities.** To expand the activities of the community participating in the YRM conferences to include peripatetic workshops for small groups in specific subject areas.
3. **LMS affiliation.** To instigate a formal relationship between the activities of the YRM community and the LMS, such as a committee responsible for supporting graduate student activity in mathematics in the UK.

Details:

1. **YRM conference**

In order to secure the future of the YRM conferences, it would be helpful to have an arrangement whereby the LMS offers continuing support, particularly funding, as well as a form of affiliation which would help to maintain the excellent reputation the conferences are beginning to establish among the UK mathematics graduate student community. In particular, it would be helpful to have access to more flexible funding than in the previous two years, reflecting the fact that the majority of the expenditure has been in supporting the participation of graduate students rather than paying the costs of invited speakers.

2. **Further activities**

It has become apparent in feedback from the previous two YRM conferences that there is an appetite for events in some way integrated with the conference to take place throughout the year. The YRM conferences provide an excellent opportunity for young researchers to meet people also working in their field, and fruitful discussions occur which could be followed up in small-group peripatetic seminars. Currently, the lack of a straightforward or uniform procedure for creating such groups is a hindrance in their formation. If

there were such a procedure, giving a standard way of applying for small amounts of funding, it is envisaged that groups meeting at YRM conferences could instigate peripatetic seminars, receive funding on a short timescale for decisions, and meet two or three times in the year, one meeting possibly coinciding with the following year's YRM conference.

3. LMS affiliation

In achieving these ends, we would suggest the possibility of the LMS engaging with the activities of young researchers by a committee supporting these activities. Such a committee would certainly play an active role in considering the proposed programme of peripatetic seminars. Of course such a committee would have to include representation from senior members of the LMS, but would also include graduate students themselves, and would be active in providing advice for organisers of peripatetic meetings as well as dispensing funding. It could possibly also form a point of contact between the LMS and the organising committee for the YRM conferences (possibly in a similar relationship to that existing between the LMS and the BMC). Thereby, the network currently being established through the YRM conferences would provide a fruitful starting point for the LMS to start providing substantial support for the community of young mathematical researchers in the UK.

26.vii.2010