



Minutes of the BMS board meeting Wednesday 20/12/2023

Present: See attached list

0. Approval of the agenda

All approve

1. Constitution of the board

Joost Vercruysse remains P, Yvik Swan steps down as VP and Sonja Hohloch becomes VP. Sonja is warmly congratulated.

Germain Van Bever is no longer at UNamur and is now board member from ULB.

The board also welcomes 3 new members: Peter De Maeschalck from UHasselt, Jérôme Daquin from Namur, Tom Mestdag from UAntwerpen. All are warmly welcomed.

2. Past activities

The BMS organised two events in 2023:

- 1) “**Breakthroughs meeting**” on Wednesday 29/03/2023 from 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM, Palace of the academies Brussels, 110 participants
- 2) “**Young Scholar Day**” on Wednesday 20/12/2023, U-residence VUB campus, Brussels, 120 participants

3. Future activities

a. PhD Day: Friday May 24, 2024 in UAntwerp

<https://bms.ulb.ac.be/conferences/phd-day-2024/>

- Call for contributions will be launched early 2024
- Plenary talks by YSA-winner and Mirna Dzamonja (Godeaux lecture 2024)
- Short talks by PhD students
- Poster session and “Best Poster Prize”

c. Other meetings

The BMS now has several activities which, by all accounts, are successful: the PhD day, the Young scholar Day and the Breakthroughs event. We will organise a “breakthroughs” in December 2024. Information will be given asap.

3 Sponsoring and prizes:

Events organized by/for “young researchers”, having no or limited access to other types of funding: Contact a BMS board member or contact us via bms@ulb.be

In 2023 the BMS sponsored: BSSM, Olympiads, Wiskundetournooi, Math en Jeans

The following prizes were awarded: Young Scholar Award, Godeaux lecture. We also introduce a new prize called the Jacques Tits Chair.

The BMS Jacques Tits Chair is a yearly prize established by the BMS board in 2023 in honor of the late Jacques Tits (1930-2023). The aim of the Jacques Tits chair is to attract an internationally recognized mathematician for a stay of one month at a Belgian university.

Call will be launched early 2024. See BMS website (soon) for regulations and more info.

4. Financial report

See attached document

5. Miscellaneous

6. YSA 2023

Sam Mattheus is the 2023 YSA recipient. He is warmly congratulated.