



BMS 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 (1930-2021). The aim of the Jacques Tits chair is to attract an internationally recognized mathematician for a stay of one month at a Belgian university. The first prize will be awarded in the academic year 2024-25.

The rules of the prize are as follows:

- Each (academic) year, the BMS board decides on the calendar of the prize. For the chair of 2024-25 the calendar is as follows:
 - Call will be launched in January '24
 - Call closes March 31, '24
 - Decision made and announced by the BMS board in May-June '24.
- Any permanent member (or group of permanent members) of a department of Mathematics at a Belgian university can propose a candidate for the chair. Hereafter this person and his university are called the host and the host university. The BMS encourages departments to discuss this first internally and to propose only one candidate by university.
- The winner of the chair is invited by the host for a stay of one month at the host university. During this stay, the chair holder can collaborate scientifically with the host and will give an advanced mini-course. The first lecture of this mini-course, called the “inaugural lecture”, should be directed to a broad mathematical audience.
- The promotor/host department is responsible for organizing the mini-course and inaugural lecture. The BMS will use its communication channels to advertise the events. The events should be communicated to the BMS at least 3 months in advance. Participation at the events should be for free for BMS members.
- The BMS will cover the travel and accommodation expenses of the chair holder (for a maximum of 3000 eur). The host helps with finding suitable accommodation for the grant holder.
- The BMS will cover expenses for the organization of a reception following the inaugural lecture (up to 1500 eur)
- The chair holder will receive a prize of 2000 eur from the BMS

- The host university is supposed to offer the grant holder a working space and access to university facilities.
- In order to nominate a candidate, the promotor should send the following documents to the email address bms@ulb.be:
 - A (short) CV of the candidate, including a full publication list, positions, grants and awards and including contact information of the candidate.
 - A support letter of the promotor (max 2 pages), highlighting the merits of the candidate, explaining the possibilities for scientific collaboration during the stay, and including the subject of the mini-course and the inaugural lecture.

These documents should arrive at the above email address before the deadline of the call defined in the calendar of the relevant year.

- The decision on the winner is made by the board of the BMS, based on the scientific excellence of the candidate, the opportunities for scientific collaboration with the host and the relevance of the topics of the mini-course and inaugural lecture for the Belgian mathematical community. The board of the BMS does not need to communicate the reasons for its decision. The outcome cannot be disputed.
- The BMS has the right not to award the prize if there are no eligible candidates and/or if the BMS board considers that the eligible candidates do not reach the standards to be awarded with the prize.
- The prize cannot be won twice.