



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). Its purpose is to invite an internationally recognized mathematician, working in any field of Mathematics, to spend one month at a Belgian university.

Rules of the prize:

- Each (academic) year, the BMS board decides on the timeline for the prize. For the 2025-26 chair, the schedule is as follows:
 - The call for applications is launched in January 2025.
 - The deadline for applications is March 31, 2025.
 - The decision will be made and announced by the BMS board in May-June 2025.
- Any permanent member (or group of permanent members) of a department of Mathematics at a Belgian university may propose a candidate for the chair. This individual is hereafter called the *host* and their institution the *host university*. The BMS encourages each department to discuss proposals internally and to nominate only one candidate per university.
- The winner of the chair will be invited by the host to spend 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 accessible to a broad mathematical audience.
- The host (or host department) is responsible for organizing the mini-course and the inaugural lecture. The BMS will use its communication channels to advertise these events. Details of the events must be communicated to the BMS at least three months in advance. Participation at the events should be for free of charge for BMS members.
- The BMS will cover travel and accommodation expenses of the chair holder, up to a maximum of 3500 EUR. The host will assist in finding suitable accommodation for the chair holder.

- The BMS will cover expenses for organizing a reception following the inaugural lecture, up to 2000 EUR.
- The chair holder will receive a prize of 2000 EUR from the BMS.
- The host university is expected to offer the chair holder a suitable workspace and access to university facilities.
- To nominate a candidate, the host must send the following documents to the email address bms@ulb.be by the specified deadline:
 - A short CV of the candidate, including a full publication list, positions, grants, awards and the candidate's contact information.
 - A support letter of the host (maximum 2 pages), highlighting the candidate's merits, the potential for scientific collaboration during the visit, and the proposed topics for the mini-course and inaugural lecture.
- The decision on the winner is made by the BMS board based on the candidate's scientific excellence, the opportunities for scientific collaboration with the host, and the relevance of the proposed mini-course and inaugural lecture to the Belgian mathematical community. Researchers working in any field of mathematics are eligible. The BMS board is not obliged to justify its decision and the outcome cannot be contested.
- The BMS reserves the right not to award the prize if no eligible candidates are found or if none of the eligible candidates meet the expected standards.
- The prize cannot be awarded to the same person twice.