



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Mr. Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, Engineer Nicolás Posse
c.c. Mr. President of CONICET, Dr. Daniel Salamone
c.c. Members of the Board of Directors of CONICET

Dear Sirs:

I write to join my voice to the outpouring of concern - even shock - in the mathematics community to the news of the dismantling of CONICET. Argentina has produced so many fine mathematicians, and now has a vibrant science tradition, that it would be a disaster, not only to Argentina but to the world for it to be diminished. A tiny fraction of the state's budget has supported this tradition; seizing that money will not be much help to the country and will destroy what will take years to recover.

I have a professional interest in this matter. I am chairing a committee organizing a significant mathematical congress - the 2025 Mathematical Congress of the Americas, which will take place in the United States. (It may interest you to know that the 2021 Congress was hosted by Argentina, though, sadly, because of COVID none of us had the chance to visit your country.) We hope to have a robust participation by Argentinian mathematicians, and I have just learned that many of my esteemed colleagues will be unable to attend because their grants have been frozen.

This would be a loss to all of us: to the scientists who will not be able to participate and to us who will be deprived of learning from them.

I hope you will have the power to reverse this disastrous decision.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Lee Keyfitz