FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL



INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL UNION

Hiraku Nakajima, President Christoph Sorger, Secretary General https://www.mathunion.org

February 29, 2024

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

IMU Letter of Support for the Mathematical Community in Argentina

Dear Mr. Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, Engineer Nicolás Posse

We are writing to you to express the International Mathematical Union's concern about the future of the mathematical community in Argentina.

The International Mathematical Union (IMU) represents mathematicians all over the world. Its main objectives are to encourage and support international activities that contribute to the development of the mathematical sciences in all their aspects, pure, applied, and educational. The IMU was founded in 1920. Its members are countries, represented through Adhering Organizations. Argentina joined the IMU in 1952, and its Adhering Organization is the Unión Matemática Argentina (UMA).

The mathematical landscape in Argentina is characterized by a rich tradition of excellence, innovation, and collaboration at the highest international level. Starting with the foundational work of Julio Rey Pastor in the early 1920s, continuing with the outstanding mathematical work of Luis Santaló, a worldclass geometer, in the mid 20th century, and the remarkable contributions of the mathematical analyst Alberto Calderón, considered to be one of the world's top mathematicians of the second half of the 20th century, Argentinian mathematics continues to be of the highest scientific level. The two CONICET institutes named after Santaló and Calderón, produce mathematical research at a very high level. Moreover, in recent years, Argentine mathematicians have received the highest international honors, such as the Abel Prize, which was awarded to Prof. Caffarelli by the King of Norway in 2023 for his outstanding contributions to regularity theory for nonlinear partial differential equations, or have assumed important international responsibilities as IMU President, IMU Vice-President or currently as Chair of the IMU Commission for Developing Countries. Over the years, Argentina has attracted many high-level mathematicians from all over the world for scientific collaboration or to attend international conferences hosted by Argentina.

We are fully aware of the very difficult economic situation in Argentina. Nevertheless, we feel that it is imperative for Argentina to continue nurturing crucial areas of scientific and technological excellence, such as mathematics. Research in mathematics has a profound impact on the economy, as it forms the backbone of modern technology, fosters innovation, and leads to breakthroughs in all scientific and technological fields. Applications of principles developed through mathematical research are fundamental in engineering, artificial intelligence and data science, medicine, and modeling financial markets, allowing informed decision making. By investing in mathematical research, governments help ensure long-term prosperity for society.

Christoph Sorger Christoph Sorger
IMU Secretary General Christoph Sorger