

EDITORIAL

There has been a wonderfully gratifying response to the email (21st August 2025) from Rachel Quinlan, President of the IMS, inviting the submission of papers for this anniversary issue of the Bulletin. The articles, book reviews, and problems herein are a testament to the vibrancy and wide range of mathematical activity on this island and among the wider IMS community. If you had in mind an article of relevance to the 50th anniversary of the IMS that, for whatever reason, didn't quite make the submission deadline for this issue, please do consider Winter 2026; after all, this anniversary does last a full calendar year!

Of particular note in this issue, since both authors are young mathematicians straddling the second-level to beginning university transition, is an article by Owen Barron and Odhran Keenan on designing challenging Olympiad-style geometry problems. Their beautifully written article is a credit to them. This editor would be delighted to receive further suitable articles written by students. And so, if you are a lecturer supervising a final year project or working in any context with students, do please encourage them to write an account of their work for the Bulletin. Remember that the Bulletin publishes articles 'written in an expository style and likely to be of interest to the members of the Society and the wider mathematical community'.

This issue also includes articles on the history of mathematics: Van Weerden on Hamilton, MacHale on Boole, and Curran's history of the mathematics learning centre at the University of Limerick; mathematics education research is represented by the work of Tyrrell-Nic Dhonncha on gestures in the classroom and that of Guerin and Walsh on the impact of a professional training programme for postgraduate tutors; Hegarty, Hill, Madden and Phelan present a timely snapshot of the mathematics staff gender balance and Athena Swan; mathematical research is represented by the work of Abreu and Pereira on the summation of various series, of Kelly and Tang on the numerical solution of stochastic delay differential equations, and of Monaco and Perrotta on a model of wealth distribution in an economy.

Rachel Quinlan, President of the IMS, in her letter in these pages, highlights the origins of the IMS and the many changes in the mathematical ecosystem that have taken place over the past 50 years. This editor echos the sentiments Rachel expresses therein and, in particular, how *community* must feature centrally in the Society – in this we have, perhaps, one advantage over the larger societies. The IMS is a community and the 'September Meeting' (its moniker becoming an ever more endearing misnomer) is the embodiment of that community. I, for one, will be at Trinity College Dublin for the 50th birthday celebrations and hope to see as many members there, as can make it, as an expression of that community.

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