



## 10 March 2015

Three mathematicians yesterday won medals and awards at a competition in the House of Commons for the excellence of their mathematics research, walking away with a £3000, £2000 and £1000 prize for Gold, Silver and Bronze respectively.

Dr Peter Buchak from Imperial College London, Dr Lorna Ayton from the University of Cambridge, and Dr Miho Janvier from the University of Dundee, each presented research to dozens of politicians and a panel of expert judges as part of the poster competition SET for Britain on Monday 9 March.

Dr Peter Buchak was awarded Gold for his poster titled, Lighting the path: the mathematics of imaginary numbers in very real problems of holey optical fibre fabrication, Dr Lorna Ayton won Silver for her research on reducing the sound generated by aeroengines, and Dr Miho Janvier won Bronze for her research on Statistical studies of solar storm geometry for better space weather predictions. The three winners were judged against 29 other shortlisted mathematicians and came out on top.

Professor Nicholas Woodhouse, President of the Clay Mathematics Institute (CMI), sponsors of the Gold Mathematical Sciences award, said, "CMI is delighted to support the SET for Britain Mathematical Sciences exhibition. The Institute is dedicated to increasing and disseminating mathematical knowledge and supports the work of leading researchers throughout the world at various stages of their careers. The future of mathematics in the UK is both challenging and exciting and we believe it is essential to nurture the best technical talent".

Sir Adrian Smith, Chair of the Council for the Mathematical Sciences (CMS) said: "The CMS is delighted that the mathematical sciences have been involved in this prestigious event for the second, successive year; it is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the importance of the mathematical sciences to a wider audience. It is paramount to encourage early-career research scientists, engineers, technologists and mathematicians and the SET for Britain event is a very effective way of doing this. We have been encouraged by the enthusiastic response from early-career researchers in the mathematical sciences and feel sure this will continue in the future."

Andrew Miller MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, said, "This annual competition is an important date in the parliamentary calendar because it gives MPs an opportunity to speak to a wide range of the country's best young researchers.

"These early career engineers, mathematicians and scientists are the architects of our future and SET for Britain is the best opportunity for politicians to meet them and understand their work."

The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee run the event in collaboration with the Society of Biology, the Council for the Mathematical Sciences, the Institute of Physics, The Physiological Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Society of Chemical Industry, with financial support from INEOS, BP, Essar, Clay Mathematics Institute, Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG), Institute of Biomedical Science, Wiley and the Bank of England.