



PRESS RELEASE

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Linda J. S. Allen to be AWM-SIAM Sonia Kovalevsky Lecturer

The Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) have selected **Linda J. S. Allen** to deliver the prestigious Sonia Kovalevsky Lecture at the 8th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM) in Beijing, China, August 10-14, 2015.

Allen is the Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Texas Tech University. She was selected as the AWM-SIAM Sonia Kovalevsky Lecturer for her outstanding contributions in ordinary differential equations, difference equations and stochastic models, which have significant applications in the areas of infectious diseases and ecology.

Allen received her PhD from the University of Tennessee in 1981 under the supervision of T.G. Hallam. In 1985 she came to Texas Tech University and quickly moved through the ranks. In 2010, Texas Tech recognized her extensive scientific contributions and her ground-breaking work on deterministic and stochastic models with a Paul Whitfield Horn Professorship.

Since 1999, Allen has served as an adjunct professor at the Institute of Environmental and

Human Health at Texas Tech. She has spent two spring terms at the Mathematical Bioscience Institute (MBI) at The Ohio State University.



Allen is an extremely productive researcher. Her work has impacted the field of mathematical epidemiology and ecological modeling, as is evidenced by the numerous citations of her work and the external support she has received from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board over the past 20 years. Allen is also a leader in promoting and cultivating scientific collaborations with

colleagues from other areas. She has affected significant changes in the way mathematicians interact with other scientists and has successfully bridged the traditional interdisciplinary divide between mathematics and the biological sciences.

Currently, Allen serves on the editorial board of four prestigious journals and serves as a reviewer for numerous others. She is the author of ninety research articles, two books and a book chapter and is a sought-after speaker both in the US and abroad. The title of her Sonia Kovalevsky Lecture is "Predicting Population Extinction, Disease Outbreaks and Species Invasions Using Branching Processes."

The 8th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics will be held August 10 – 14, 2015 in Beijing, China. The Kovalevsky Lecture honors Sonia Kovalevsky (1850–1891), the most widely known Russian mathematician of the late 19th century. In 1874, Kovalevsky received her Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Gottingen and was appointed lecturer at the University of Stockholm in 1883. She did her most important work in the theory of differential equations. Past Kovalevsky lecturers are Irene M. Gamba, Margaret Cheney, Barbara Keyfitz, Susanne Brenner, Suzanne Lenhart, Andrea Bertozzi, Dianne O'Leary, Lai-Sang Young, Irene Fonseca, Ingrid Daubechies, Joyce McLaughlin and Linda R. Petzold.