Editorial

This publication has completed its third year of existence with 12 issues published. I hope it has played a role in the dissemination of news on mathematics-related activities, and in fostering better communication links within the mathematics community in the Asia Pacific region. As I have mentioned in the inaugural issue, the APMN aims to provide a platform for discussion on issues faced by the mathematics community, but regrettably the responses from readers were rather poor. It is hoped that more readers will put in some effort to start the ball rolling in future issues of APMN.

In addition to the introductory article by Rozikov on p-adic numbers, this issue features two articles on recent important results on the twin prime problem and the Kadison–Singer conjecture. Ram Murty in "The Twin Prime Problem and Generalisations" gives an exposition of this long-standing problem and a recent breakthrough obtained by Yitang Zhang. The previous issue of APMN has reported briefly on the work of Zhang and featured an interview with him. The Kadison–Singer conjecture was formulated in 1959 by mathematicians Richard Kadison and Isadore Singer. This conjecture has a remarkably large number of equivalent formulations in operator algebras, high-dimensional geometry and linear algebra; and it has important implications for many areas of mathematics, computer science and quantum mechanics. In a paper posted in June this year, Adam Marcus and Daniel A Spielman of Yale University, together with Nikhil Srivastava of Microsoft Research India, announced a proof of this conjecture. One of the authors of this paper, Srivastava gives an exposition of the result in "Discrepancy, Graphs and the Kadison–Singer Problem".

In the article "Journalist in Residence (JIR) Programme in Mathematics in Japan", Koji Fujiwara introduces a special programme which allows journalists and writers to reside at mathematics departments to explore and know more about mathematics and to interact with mathematicians. Such a programme aims to improve science writing and science journalism.

Gonit Sora is a multilingual website which plays the role of online mathematics magazine for students. A description of this website, its goals and future prospects are given in "Gonit Sora: The Two Year Journey".

A book review on "Sacred Mathematics: Japanese Temple Geometry" and interviews with Hidetoshi Fukagawa and Tony Rothman, authors of the book, are featured in this issue.

I hope you will enjoy reading the articles and news covered in this issue. Please send in your comments and suggestions so that APMN can be improved to serve you better.

I wish you in advance a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Swee Cheng Lim
Editor

Asia Pacific Mathematics Newsletter welcomes contributions on the following areas:

- Expository articles on mathematical topics of general interest
- Articles on mathematics education
- Introducing centres of excellence in mathematical sciences
- News of mathematical societies in the Asia Pacific region
- Introducing well-known mathematicians from the Asia Pacific region
- Book reviews
- Conference reports and announcements held in Asia Pacific countries
- Letters from readers on relevant topics and issues
- Other items of interest to the mathematical community