Queen’s Anniversary Prize

The Millennium Mathematics Project has been awarded a Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education. This is the highest award for achievement in the higher and further education sector and is the educational and research counterpart of the Queen’s Awards for Industry.

The Millennium Mathematics Project (MMP) was launched in 1999 as a joint project between the Faculties of Mathematics and Education at the University of Cambridge. The aim of the project is to support mathematics education in primary and secondary schools throughout the UK and promote the development of mathematical skills and understanding, particularly through enrichment and extension activities beyond the school curriculum, and through activities designed to increase the mathematical understanding of the general public.

The project’s activities have a significant regional, national and international impact, and MMP resources have been repeatedly commended by the Department for Education and Skills.

Professor John D Barrow FRS, the Director of the Millennium Mathematics Project, said: ‘I am delighted that the Millennium Mathematics Project has been awarded the Queen’s Anniversary Prize. This is a tribute to the vision of those in the University who initiated this project, those in the outside world who added their support for it, and all the members of our dedicated Project team who have made such a wide-ranging impact in schools and amongst the general public. This Prize is also a welcome confirmation of the vital importance of mathematics to the United Kingdom.’

The Queen’s Anniversary Prizes recognise and honour outstanding achievement and excellence at world-class level in UK universities and colleges. All universities and colleges across the UK are invited to make a single entry in each biennial round. Entries must demonstrate outstanding achievement and benefit brought to the institution and the wider community, and the Awards Council look in particular for signs of initiative, innovation and originality.

Uniquely in the field of education, these Prizes sit within the national honours system. Names of Prize-winners are put forward to the Prime Minister, who advises the Queen and seeks her assent. The formal presentation of the Prize medal by Her Majesty the Queen will take place at Buckingham Palace on 16 February 2006.

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