2018 FLAJOLET LECTURE PRIZE

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Philippe Flajolet Lecture Prize for outstanding contributions to analytic combinatorics and analysis of algorithms is awarded every two years by the Analysis of Algorithms (AofA) community that owes its existence to Philippe Flajolet. The first Flajolet Lecture was presented by D. E. Knuth at the 2014 AofA International Conference on Probabilistic, Combinatorial and Asymptotic Methods for the Analysis of Algorithms, Paris, France, and the second one by Bob Sedgewick at the 2016 AofA Conference in Krakow, Poland.

> The prize is named in honor and recognition of the extraordinary accomplishments of late Philippe Flajolet, who spent most of his scientific life at INRIA, France. Philippe is best known for fundamental advances in mathematical methods for the analysis of algorithms. His research laid the foundation of a subfield of mathematics, now known as analytic combinatorics. Analytic combinatorics is a modern basis for the quantitative study of combinatorial structures (such as words, trees, mappings, and graphs), with applications to probabilistic study of algorithms that are based on these structures. It also strongly influences research in other scientific domains, such as statistical physics, computational biology, and information theory. Flajolet's work takes the field forward by introducing original approaches in combinatorics based on two types of methods: symbolic and analytic. The symbolic side is based on the automation of decision procedures in combinatorial enumeration to derive characterizations of generating functions. The analytic side treats those functions as functions in the complex plane and leads to precise characterization of limit distributions. Beyond these foundational contributions, Philippe's research opened new avenues in various domains of applied computer science, including streaming algorithms, communication protocols, database access methods, data mining, symbolic manipulation, text-processing algorithms, and random generation.

The next Flajolet Lecture will be delivered at the 2018 AofA Conference in Uppsala, Sweden. **Nominations are due on February 28, 2017.** The winner will be selected by a Prize Committee consisting of:

> Michael Drmota, Chair (TU Wien)
> Mireille Bousquet-Melou (Univ. Bordeaux)
> Peter Winkler (Dartmouth College)
> Bob Sedgewick, ex officio (Princeton University)

The nomination letter should summarize his/her contributions in one or two pages. All nominations should be sent to Michael Drmota at `michael.drmota@tuwien.ac.at`

In selecting the Flajolet-Prize winner, the Committee will pay particular attention to a sustained record of high-impact, seminal contributions to the research areas most directly impacted by the work of Flajolet: the foundations of analysis of algorithms and/or analytic combinatorics. The selection may also be based partly on educational accomplishments and contributions such as fundamental textbooks and high-quality students. The final selection will be approved by the Steering Committee of the AofA.