

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

3 DECADES OF ADVANCING THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES.

PIMS MONTHLY CONNECTION | **October 2026**

Welcome to PIMS Connection! Showcasing collaborations, discoveries, and leadership driving innovation — as we [celebrate 30 years](#) of advancing mathematical sciences.

PIMS News

- [PIMS–UBC Forum on Mathematics and AI](#) 
- [PIMS Community Members Receive 2026 Clay Research Award](#)
- [Emergent Research: PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar Series](#)

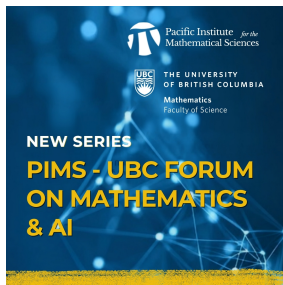
Upcoming Deadlines Across the Network

- October 1, 2026 | [Call for Scientific Proposals](#)
- October 1, 2026 | [Call for Organizers: Joint BIRS–PIMS–SLMath Graduate Summer School](#)
- Expression of Interest | [PIMS–CIMPA–Africa Mentorship Network](#)
- October 9, 2026 | [PIMS First Year Interest Groups: Call for Participants](#)
- November 1, 2026 | [Nominations Open: 2027 CRM–Fields–PIMS Prize](#)
- December 1, 2026 | [PIMS Postdoctoral Fellowships: Call for Nominations](#)

Feature Events

- October 1, 2026 | [PIMS–UBC Forum on Mathematics and AI](#) ♦
- October 3, 2026 | [West Coast Optimization Meeting \(WCOM\)](#)
- October 7, 2026 | [PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar: Hermie Monderde](#)
- October 8, 2026 | [PIMS Network Wide Colloquium: Gunnar E. Carlsson](#)
- October 13, 2026 | [Diagram Categories in Homotopy Theory CRG Seminar: Ben Szczesny](#)
- October 14, 2026 | [PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar: Joshua Turner](#)
- October 28, 2026 | [PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar: Peter McDonald](#)

PIMS NEWS



[PIMS–UBC Forum on Mathematics and AI](#) ♦

PIMS and the UBC Department of Mathematics are launching a biweekly hybrid forum exploring the evolving relationship between mathematics and artificial intelligence—from how AI is changing mathematical research, teaching, and the profession to the contributions mathematics and mathematicians are making to AI. The first forum, on October 1 will feature **PIMS Director Özgür Yilmaz** and **PIMS Co-Director (Programs) Deanna Needell** discussing *Mathematics for AI*, *AI for Mathematics: Where Things Stand as of This Morning*. Faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students at UBC are invited to participate in person, with online participation available across the PIMS network. [...]



[PIMS Community Members Receive 2026 Clay Research Award](#)

Congratulations to [Pablo Shmerkin](#) and [Joshua Zahl](#), UBC Mathematics professors and longtime members of the PIMS community, who, together with collaborators Tuomas Orponen and Hong Wang, have received the **2026 Clay Research Award**. The award recognizes their work developing new techniques that led

to the resolution of two major problems in modern analysis: the Furstenberg set conjecture in the plane (Shmerkin, with Orponen) and the Kakeya conjecture in three dimensions (Zahl, with Wang). Their achievement represents the culmination of years of collaborative research and the development of powerful new approaches to multiscale analysis.



[Emergent Research: PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar Series](#)

Registration is open for the **2026–2027 Emergent Research: PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar Series**. Held online, the series provides an opportunity to discover emerging work in the mathematical sciences and connect with early-career researchers.

Upcoming speakers include

- Hermie Monderde | University of Regina
- Joshua Turner | University of British Columbia
- Peter McDonald | Simon Fraser University
- Wesley J.M. Ridgway | University of Saskatchewan

See the [PIMS website for a full list](#). Register once to attend any of the talks.

PIMS NETWORK DEADLINES

[Call for Scientific Proposals](#)

 **Application Deadline: October 1, 2026**

Explore opportunities to support conferences, workshops, and collaborative research activities.

This call also includes:

- Research Catalysts—seed funding to spark new collaborations.
-  2027–2028 Thematic Year: Mathematics of Quantum Science and Technology—now accepting proposals.

Researchers from across the PIMS network are encouraged to explore these opportunities. [...](#)

[Call for Organizers: Joint BIRS–PIMS–SLMath Graduate Summer School](#)

 **Application Deadline: October 1, 2026**

BIRS, PIMS, and SLMATH invite proposals to organize a Joint BIRS–PIMS–SLMath Graduate Summer School, to be held in summer 2028 at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. Proposals are welcome on any topic in the mathematical sciences. Funding for student participation, organizers, and instructors will be provided by the three partner institutes. [\[...\]](#)

[PIMS–CIMPA–Africa Mentorship Network](#)

 **Expression of Interest**

The PIMS–CIMPA–Africa Mentorship Network connects early-career African mathematical scientists with experienced researchers from universities in the PIMS network. We are currently seeking expressions of interest from mentors who will be matched with African graduate students, postdocs and junior faculty based on research area, career goals, career level, and availability. [\[...\]](#)

[Nominations Open: 2027 CRM–Fields–PIMS Prize](#)

 **Deadline: November 1, 2026**

Nominations are now open for Canada's premier award recognizing exceptional research achievements in the mathematical sciences, presented jointly by the Centre de recherches mathématiques (CRM), the Fields Institute, and PIMS. [\[...\]](#)

[PIMS First Year Interest Groups: Call for Participants](#)

 **Deadline: October 9, 2026**

Graduate students (MSc/PhD) in the PIMS Network are invited to take part in the PIMS First Year Interest Group (FYIG) program. FYIGs bring together early-career researchers to explore active topics in the mathematical sciences. Each FYIG is led by a PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow who leads a virtual reading group on the topic of interest. See the FYIG page for this year's topics and application instructions. [\[...\]](#)

[PIMS Postdoctoral Fellowships Call for Nominations](#)

 **Nomination Deadline: December 1, 2026**

We invite nominations of outstanding recent PhD graduates in the mathematical sciences for postdoctoral fellowships at Canadian PIMS member universities. The program supports exceptional early-career researchers while fostering research excellence and collaboration across the PIMS network. [...]

FEATURE EVENTS

[PIMS–UBC Forum on Mathematics and AI](#)

Mathematics for AI, AI for Mathematics: Where Things Stand as of This Morning

 October 1, 2026 |  Online + UBC Earth Sciences Building, Room 1012

This inaugural forum will feature PIMS Director Özgür Yilmaz and PIMS Co-Director (Programs) Deanna Needell.

[West Coast Optimization Meeting \(WCOM\)](#)

 October 3, 2026 |  University of Washington Tacoma

This event brings together researchers in optimization and its applications from across the West Coast.

[PIMS Network-Wide Colloquium: Gunnar E. Carlsson](#)

 October 8, 2026 |  Online

Gunnar E. Carlsson is Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Stanford University, where his research spans algebraic topology and its applications to data analysis.

[Diagram Categories in Homotopy Theory CRG Seminar: Ben Szczesny](#)

 October 13, 2026 |  Online

[PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar](#)

These events are part of the Emergent Research: PIMS Postdoctoral Fellow Seminar Series:

 October 7, 2026 |  Online [Hermie Monterde](#)

 October 14, 2026 |  Online [Joshua Turner](#)

 October 28, 2026 |  Online +  Simon Fraser University [Peter McDonald](#)

MEDIA

Missed a Lecture?

Watch Anytime on Mathtube. Explore a rich archive of videos and lecture notes across the mathematical sciences.

www.mathtube.org.



ABOUT PIMS

Founded in 1996, the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) promotes discovery, understanding, and collaboration in the mathematical sciences. With a network spanning Western Canada and Washington State, PIMS supports research, training, and outreach through Collaborative Research Groups, Postdoctoral Fellowships, and competitive event funding. Our mission is to advance excellence in mathematics while fostering equity, diversity, inclusion, and global partnerships.

Your Support Makes a Difference

PIMS education and outreach programs reach educators and students through summer schools, math contests, and teacher workshops. Learn more about how your support helps us strengthen mathematical education and engagement.

[Donate to PIMS](#)