

PIMS - CNRS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH LAB

The PIMS - CNRS International Research Lab (IRL) has been championing the mutual exchange of knowledge since 2007. It builds and fosters collaboration in the mathematical sciences between Western Canada and France. The IRL spans across all PIMS member universities in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Washington (USA).

- 2007: The first PIMS-CNRS agreement was signed (by Ivar Ekeland, former PIMS Director) making PIMS a CNRS-UMI (Unité Mixte Internationale) with the official title of “PIMS-Europe”.
- PIMS becomes the first North American UMI in the mathematical sciences and still the only one in Western Canada.
- 2019: Agreement renewed: PIMS-CNRS International Research Lab (IRL #3069).
- PIMS is still the only IRL in Western Canada.



“This format and label of CNRS projects is one of the most prestigious in the domain of its international cooperation. It recognizes not only the high quality of the research and person-to-person interactions, but also allows a wide range of scientific activities, including the international mobility of faculty members as well as PhD and student research training. It also opens opportunities for research funding within France and the European Union.” Antoine Petit, CNRS President and CEO during the 2019 CNRS renewal Ceremony.

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS

CNRS VISITORS

Distinguished French researchers (at CNRS or a French university) spend the academic year at one of PIMS member universities and participate in research activities. PIMS hosted 41 visitors since 2007.

Visitors since 2019 include: Jean-Christophe Loudet (Bordeaux), Arnaud Bodin (Lille), Joris van der Hoeven (Ecole Polytechnique), Charles Favre (Ecole Polytechnique), Benjamin Audoux (Marseille), Tahar Boulmezaoud (Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines), Ismael Bailleul (Rennes).

PIMS - EUROPE FELLOWSHIP

This program supports faculty at PIMS member universities for long-term visits to France fostering collaboration.

Awardees since 2018 include: Steven Rayan (USask to Nice), Marni Mishna (SFU to Bordeaux), Slim Ibrahim (UVic to Rennes), Gourab Ray (UVic to Paris Diderot), Cedric Chauve (SFU to Bordeaux), Jennifer McCloud-Mann (UWashington to Bordeaux), Manish Patnaik (UALberta to Institut Camille Jordan Lyon), Yaozhing Hu (UALberta to Institut de Mathématiques de Bourgogne), Sabin Cautis (UBC to Orsay), Jinniao Qiu (UCalgary to Paris-Dauphine) and Rachel Ollivier (UBC to Orsay).

PIMS - CNRS STUDENT MOBILITY PROGRAM

PIMS CNRS Student Mobility Program is geared for senior undergraduates, graduates and postdoctoral scholars. Supports 3-6 month student exchanges between PIMS member universities and universities/eligible institutions in France. This program began in 2018.

PIMS - CNRS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

This award is targeted to applicants that are French, or who have completed their PhD degree in France. We have awarded 25 PIMS - CNRS Postdoctoral scholarships since 2007.

Current PIMS-CNRS PDFs are: Asuri Mukundan Anirudh (UBC), Guodong Gai (UBC) and Lucas Teyssier (UBC).



HIGH PROFILE EVENTS

2013 JEAN-PIERRE BOURGUIGNON

Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, Former Director de recherche, CNRS and Director, Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques (IHÉS).

- Gave the PIMS Distinguished Lecture titled: “The Work of Misha Gromov, a Truly Original Thinker”.



- Inauguration of the exhibition “Unravelers” an original work by Jean-François Dars, Annick Lesne and Anne Papillault. The book, featuring scientists at IHÉS, was a best seller and led to the creation of an exhibition.

[https://www.pims.math.ca/scientific-](https://www.pims.math.ca/scientific-event/130405-tums)

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2017 CÉDRIC VILLANI

Cédric Villani (Fields Medal, Director of the Institut Henri Poincaré, Member of the French Academy of Sciences).

- Jointly sponsored by PIMS, PWIAS, and the Consulate of France.



- Public lecture at the Vogue Theater, downtown Vancouver (~1000 people attended):

“The Hidden Beauty of Mathematics” where Villani discussed the interface between mathematics and art, showing how both these disciplines seek to illuminate hidden beauty in the world.

<https://www.pims.math.ca/scientific-event/170502-ppwiaswcvthbm>

2019 ÉTIENNE GHYS

2019 Vancouver Tour of Étienne Ghys (Clay Award, Permanent Secretary of the French Academy of Sciences since 2019).



- Jointly sponsored by PIMS, TELUS World of Science, Alliance Française, PWIAS, and the Consulate of France.
- Public lecture at the TELUS World of Science on “The

Geometry of Snowflakes” open to elementary and high school students as well as the general public.

<https://medium.com/pims-math/étienne-ghys-a-life-less-ordinary-78e5987c47cb>



2023 PIMS - FACTS PUBLIC PANEL

French-Ameri-Can Climate Talks (FACTS): *Tackling Climate Change and the Just Transition to Renewable Energy*.

- Jointly sponsored by PIMS, Consulate of France in Vancouver, UBC Connects, UBC Faculty of

Science the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions.

Speakers Included:

- **Moderator: Laura Lynch**, CBC journalist, host of weekly radio show What on Earth.
- **René Aïd**: Professor (Economics) Université Paris Dauphine, former Deputy-Director of EDF Research Energy Finance
- **Gael Giraud**: Founder, Director and Professor, Georgetown University Environmental Justice Program; former chief economist of the French Development agency and CNRS research director.
- **Seth Klein**: Public policy researcher, author, and Team Lead with the Climate Emergency Unit.
- **Judith Sayers**: President of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, lawyer, renewable energy leader, chancellor of Vancouver Island University.
- **Andrew Weaver**: Professor (Climate science) University of Victoria, IPCC lead author, former BC MLA & leader of BC Green Party.

<https://www.pims.math.ca/scientific-event/230727-fppcc>

Media Article: <https://tinyurl.com/ywsv4edh>

2024 FRANCE-WESTERN CANADA WORKSHOP ON OCEAN AND POLAR SCIENCES

- Jointly organized by the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), PIMS, and the Consulate General of France in Vancouver.
- A hybrid/satellite event for researchers that helped identify shared research themes and explored possibilities for new interactions.

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