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17 מרץ 2010   March 17, 2010

פרס נסיהו במתמטיקה תש"ע

פרס נסיהו במתמטיקה לשנת תש"ע (2010) מוענק במשותף לדר' **אלעד פארן** מאוניברסיטת תל אביב ולדר' **זאב דביר** ממכון ויצמן למדע. ציטוט נימוקי ועדת הפרס מופיע להלן.

2010 Nessyahu Prize in Mathematics

The 2009 Nessyahu Prize in Mathematics is awarded jointly to Dr. **Elad Paran** from Tel Aviv University and to Dr. **Zeev Dvir** from the Weizmann Institute of Science. The Prize Committee's citation follows.

> The members of the committee received files on six candidates for the Nessyahu prize for the best doctoral thesis. Upon reviewing the material it became clear that it was necessary to distinguish between excellent theses and "outstanding ones". While there were some differences of opinion with respect to some of the candidates, it was the unanimous opinion of all the members of the committee that the theses of Elad Paran and Zeev Dvir were certainly outstanding.
>
> **Elad Paran:**
>
> A portion of his thesis was accepted as a single author publication in the Annals of Mathematics, which is acknowledged as the most prestigious research journal in Mathematics today. Its acceptance rate is 10% of the papers submitted. For the results of a Ph. D. thesis to appear in the Annals is quite unusual and it is hard to contemplate a more stringent criterion for a thesis to be "outstanding".
>
> As one of his reviewers wrote: "Due to the generality of the results that Paran obtained; the originality of the approach; the development of enhanced methods of algebraic patching that he brought about in the process; and the implications for the broader study of embedding problems and absolute Galois groups, I can describe this work as a quite innovative thesis that will be influential among researchers in the field."
>
> Another reviewer summarized his thesis as "a marvelous piece of work which deserves any credit [it] can get."

<u>Zeev Dvir:</u>

Dvir's thesis contains a solution of a famous problem that was considered and not solved by leading researchers, the finite field Kayeka conjecture. This result, which was attained independently, and is described by the referees as a "major breakthrough", was published in the Journal of the AMS, generally acknowledged as a close second to the Annals in the ranking of leading mathematics journals. Certainly a thesis containing such a result must be classified as outstanding.

One reviewer wrote: If the result is impressive, the proof is even more so due to its shocking simplicity ... this result is by now widely acknowledged as a brilliant breakthrough. And the proof shows that there is still plenty of room for sheer cleverness in central problems in mathematics."

On the basis of these considerations the committee recommends both Paran and Dvir for the Nessyahu prize.

Both candidates were so impressive that the committee felt it necessary to recommend them both. It would have been very difficult to decide between the two winners.

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Prize Committee Chairman
Professor Avraham Feintuch
Ben Gurion University

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