

Variational Methods: Open Problems, Recent Progress, and Numerical Methods, II.

From: Conference Organizers: Maya Chhetri (Maya@uncg.edu)
(July 2006) Petr Girg (Pgirg@kma.zcu.cz),
John M. Neuberger (John.Neuberger@nau.edu)

Re: *Scientific Committee* for Proposed Conference
(<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~jmn3/var07/var07.html>)
Northern Arizona University – Flagstaff, Arizona, USA
Tentative Dates: Wednesday May 23rd – Saturday May 26th, 2007

Dear Distinguished Colleague -

We're writing to ask that you participate in the oversight of our proposed conference. By accepting to be a member of the corresponding *Scientific Committee*, you will contribute to the prestige of the conference. Your name alone will aid us greatly in our pursuit of a level of funding sufficient to properly organize and execute the conference. Should you wish, there will be opportunities for you make more substantial contributions as well.

The emphasis of the conference will be in Nonlinear Elliptic PDE and related Boundary Value Problems, particularly those applying Variational and/or Topological Methods. There will be a balance between Analysis, Applications, and Numerical Methods. All invitees are being asked to give a 45-minute talk. Selected by status, area of research, and availability, several keynote speakers will give one or more 1-hour invited addresses. The 1-hour talks will cover a wide range of topics in the speakers' areas of expertise, including background material, surveys of recent results and relevant techniques, and an enumeration of important open problems. The 45-minute talks may be of a similar summary nature, or could more narrowly focus on the details of the attendees current research. All attendees will be encouraged to submit an article to the conference proceedings, to be published by the *Electronic Journal of Differential Equations* (EJDE). The proceedings of the May 2002 conference were published in the AMS journal *Contemporary Mathematics*, volume 357.

The duties of membership on this committee should not be overly onerous. Essentially, your name will indicate to the mathematical community and the *National Science Foundation* that this is a serious conference with a meritorious agenda. As a senior member of our profession, any suggestions or comments you might have pertaining to the conference would be most welcome. If you could suggest potential invitees, ranging from student to senior researcher, we would be very appreciative. It is the intention of the organizing committee to handle the editorial duties for the conference proceedings, but we would here too welcome any oversight or contributions that you might wish to make. Several of the members will be speakers from the previous conference, held in June of 2002, also at Northern Arizona University. We expect that other members of this committee will be among the May 2007 participants. Naturally, we also invite you to attend and/or speak, should your busy schedule allow!

At this time, we have obtained enough funding from the organizers' home institutions to begin the organization of the conference. We are in the process of submitting a proposal to the *National Science Foundation* (NSF) asking for a more substantial sum, in order to fund fully the keynote speakers, and to a high degree, student and new PhD participants. The remainder of the invitees will be supported as we are able, based on need. Additionally, we are inviting Wolfram to support the conference, in exchange for us allotting some time to some new and innovative *Mathematica* demonstrations.

We would be honored for you to accept our request. In that case, your status as a member of the *Scientific Committee* may be appended to the NSF proposal in order to increase our odds of obtaining that award. Please consult the conference website to better get a feeling for the format and agenda of the proposed conference. For your convenience, the organizers are also sending you a list of speakers and proceedings contributors from the June 2002 conference. Finally, we wish to emphasize that although we do not have high expectations for the amount of time and effort that the members of the *Scientific Committee* spend, we are entirely open to any and all contributions you might feel compelled to make.

Thank you kindly for your time and consideration,

- The Organizers