

15 September, 2006

Our Ref: CTS/GC

EPSRC
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon SN2 1ET

Dear Sirs/Madams,

Re: **Warwick Symposium 2006-07**

The Warwick Mathematics Research Centre (MRC) plans its next symposium for 2007-08 with the title 'Algebraic Geometry' and with Professor Miles Reid FRS as the main coordinator. I am pleased to enclose his bid to EPSRC for funding. Professor Reid is also the current Director of the Warwick MRC, and so ideally placed to make the most productive use of its facilities.

The planned symposium covers several areas of advance in algebraic geometry; these include major topics in algebraic surfaces and in moduli spaces, in addition to developments arising from the recent progress towards solution of the higher-dimensional minimal model program. Professor Reid's coordinating team involves mathematicians from a number of UK departments outside Warwick, from Europe and from the USA. As with other recent Warwick symposia, we plan a concentrated year involving continuous seminars and several workshops covering the major scientific topics, with follow up activities over the next three to four years to consolidate and maximise the benefits from the symposium. Many UK, European and international specialists will be involved in all of this, which promises to contribute substantially to UK involvement in these areas, and to benefit many UK and European algebraic geometers. Previous Warwick symposia in Algebraic Geometry (in 1970, 1982, and 1995) have each contributed to major advances in the subject, and to attracting leading international algebraic geometers to permanent jobs in the UK.

The MRC has excellent conference facilities and workspace, expert staff with long experience of handling the needs of visitors, a central location in the UK, and a long tradition of scientific networking; all of this makes us uniquely well equipped to host activities of this type. Warwick MRC maintains an open door policy, allowing and encouraging anyone to take advantage of our workshops. In line with previous Warwick symposia this bid includes a component of £22k salary for MRC staff. The MRC staff make an enormous contribution to the success of our symposia, which justifies this component of the bid.

Yours faithfully,



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