Press Release

Announcement of The Shaw Laureates 2017

The Shaw Prize in Astronomy is awarded to
Simon D M White
Director, Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics, Germany

for his contributions to understanding structure formation in the Universe. With powerful numerical simulations he has shown how small density fluctuations in the early Universe develop into galaxies and other nonlinear structures, strongly supporting a cosmology with a flat geometry, and dominated by dark matter and a cosmological constant.

The Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine is awarded in equal shares to
Ian R Gibbons
Visiting Researcher, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley, USA and
Ronald D Vale
Professor and Vice-Chair, Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology Department, University of California, San Francisco and Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, USA

for their discovery of microtubule-associated motor proteins: engines that drive nerve cell growth and chromosome inheritance essential to human development.

The Shaw Prize in Mathematical Sciences is awarded in equal shares to
János Kollár
Professor, Department of Mathematics, Princeton University, USA and
Claire Voisin
Professor and Chair in Algebraic Geometry, Collège de France, France

for their remarkable results in many central areas of algebraic geometry, which have transformed the field and led to the solution of long-standing problems that had appeared out of reach.

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Tuesday, 23 May 2017. At today’s press conference in Hong Kong, The Shaw Prize Foundation announced the Shaw Laureates for 2017. Information was posted on the website www.shawprize.org at Hong Kong time 15:30 (GMT 07:30).

The Shaw Prize consists of three annual prizes: Astronomy, Life Science and Medicine, and Mathematical Sciences, each bearing a monetary award of US$1.2 million. This will be the fourteenth year that the Prize has been awarded and the presentation ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, 26 September 2017 in Hong Kong.