M. LEDOUX

Editor's note

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This Special Issue of the Annales de la Faculté des Sciences de Toulouse collects papers from the laureates of the Fermat Prizes 1999 and 2001.

The Fermat Prize for Mathematics Research is delivered by the Paul-Sabatier University of Toulouse under the patronage of ASTRIUM SAS. It rewards research work in fields where the contributions of Pierre de Fermat have been decisive: Variational Principles, Probability Theory and Analytical Geometry, Number Theory. Former winners are A. Bahri, K. A. Ribbet, J.-L. Colliot-Thélène, J.-M. Coron, A. J. Wiles, M. Talagrand.

The Fermat Prize for Mathematics Research 1999 was awarded jointly to F. Bethuel and F. Hélein for several important contributions to the theory of variational calculus, which have consequences in Physics and Geometry.

The Fermat Prize for Mathematics Research 2001 was awarded jointly to R. L. Taylor for his various contributions to the study of the links between Galois representations and automorphic forms and to W. Werner for his works on the intersection exponents of Brownian motion and their impact in theoretical Physics (research undertaken to a large extent with G. Lawler and O. Schramm).

The Annales de la Faculté des Sciences de Toulouse are happy to publish contributions of these authors and thank them for their cooperation.

The Editor-in-Chief
M. Ledoux