

# ICMI Regional Conference: **EARCOME4**

## A brief progress report

The 4<sup>th</sup> East Asia Regional Conference on Mathematics Education (EARCOME4) will be held on **18-22 June 2007** in City Bayview Hotel, Penang, Malaysia. The Conference is jointly organized by The School of Education Studies and The School of Mathematical Sciences of Universiti Sains Malaysia, under the auspices of the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction [ICMI].

The ICME-East Asia Regional Conference series on mathematics education was first held in 1998 (Korea), the second in 2003 (Singapore) and the third in 2005 (Shanghai, China). Universiti Sains Malaysia has been given the honour and prestige to host the coming EARCOME4 in 2007 in Penang, Malaysia.

The objectives of the conference are to provide a forum for mathematics educators, teachers and graduate students from the region and beyond to discuss issues, exchange ideas and to present their research findings pertaining to mathematics education. The main theme and sub themes of the conference are:

### **Main Theme**

Meeting the Challenges of Developing a Quality Mathematics Education Culture

### **Sub Themes**

- Mathematics curriculum reform in multicultural settings
- Assessment issues and practices in mathematics education
- Teaching and learning of mathematics
- Mathematics teacher education and professional development
- Integration of ICT in promoting a quality mathematics education
- Teaching and learning of mathematics in second language

The scientific programme of the conference includes 5 plenary lectures, 7 regular lectures and one Round Table Discussion. Besides, there will be 141 paper presentations, 11 workshops and 42 poster exhibits. An estimate of 300 participants consist of 40% foreign participants from 22 countries, 35% local mathematics educators and 25% local mathematics teachers and postgraduate students have registered. 141 full papers were received and reviewed by a panel of reviewers. 71 papers were selected to be published in the conference hard copy proceedings but all will be collected in the CD proceedings. Both proceedings will be published prior to the conference.

### **The five invited plenary lectures and speakers are:**

1. Prof Paul Ernest (United Kingdom):

What Does The New Philosophy Of Mathematics Mean For Mathematics Education?

2. Prof Wei Chi Yang (USA):  
*Making Mathematics Accessible to Most through Innovative Use of Technology*
3. Prof Azlan Zanzali (Malaysia):  
Issues in Developing Authentic Assessment in Mathematics Education
4. Prof Berinderjeet Kaur (Singapore):  
*Teaching And Learning Of Mathematics: What Really Matters To Teachers And To Students?*
5. Prof Ryosuke Nagaoka (Japan):  
*How the Respect for Mathematics Education Can Be Kept In Societies: A Key Conception to Be Shared Among Mathematics Teachers*

To encourage collaborations and cooperation among regional countries and locally, three types of committees have been set up: (i) the International Programme Committee (IPC) which is chaired by Professor Dato' Dr. Rosihan M. Ali (the Deputy Vice Chancellor of USM) and consists of 15 members of mathematics educators from the East Asia and South East Asia countries; (ii) the National Programme Committee (NC) which made up of 12 members of local mathematics educators from various universities and educational institutions; and (iii) the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).

The official web page of the Conference is (<http://www.usm.my/education/earcome4>) where detail information can be found. The Local Organizing Committee can be reached at the address: [earcome4@usm.my](mailto:earcome4@usm.my)

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