Association for Symbolic Logic

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ASL NEWSLETTER September 2007

- **In Memoriam: Gert H. Müller.** Gert Heinz Müller, a central figure in mathematical logic in Germany, died in Heidelberg on September 3, 2006 at the age of 83. He was Professor Emeritus of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Logic at the University of Heidelberg.

  Müller, a citizen of Austria, was born in Opava (Troppau) in Czechoslovakia. After graduating from high school, he served in the army during the last years of World War II. After the war he studied mathematics, astronomy, and philosophy at the University of Graz, where he received his Ph.D. in philosophy in 1947. Müller's career in mathematical logic started in Zürich at the ETH, where, from 1951 to 1960, he was assistant to Paul Bernays. Following an invitation of Friedrich K. Schmidt, in 1960 Müller moved to Heidelberg, where in 1962 he received the venia legendi and habilitation, and subsequently built up his well known logic group. From 1973 until his retirement in 1990 he held the chair of mathematical logic in Heidelberg. The years in Heidelberg were accompanied by numerous appointments as guest professor or guest researcher all over the world.

  Müller's research was devoted to mathematical logic and the philosophy of sciences. Among Müller's most important services to the logic community were his efforts in the dissemination and critical evaluation of the increasingly specialized research achievements in the field. Müller was one of the founders and the driving force of the legendary Ω-group in 1968/69. This group of logicians greatly influenced the field by two outstanding enterprises: the *Perspectives in Mathematical Logic*, an integrated series of monographs covering the main current research areas in mathematical logic, originally published by Springer and now published by the ASL as the *Perspectives in Logic*, and the Ω-bibliography of Mathematical Logic edited by Müller in collaboration with Wolfgang Lenski.

- **The 2007 ASL Election.** At the end of this year the ASL will elect a Secretary-Treasurer, two members of the Executive Committee of the Council, and two members of the Council. All terms are for three years beginning January 1, 2008. The ballot will be sent to all ASL members with the November Newsletter. The 2007 Nominating Committee has nominated Charles Steinhorn (Vassar) as Secretary-Treasurer, Mirna Dzamonja (East Anglia) and Philip Scott (Ottawa) for the Executive Committee positions, and Verónica Becher (Buenos Aires) and Richard Zach (Calgary) for the Council positions. The Nominating Committee consisted of Greg Hjorth, Phokion Kolaitis, Steffen Lempp (Chair), Paolo Mancosu, Anand Pillay, and Albert Visser.

  Additional nominations may be made by petition signed by 10 or more ASL members; such petitions should be received by the ASL Secretary-Treasurer (email `asl@vassar.edu` or ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12604, USA) no later than November 1, 2007. In a contested election, each candidate has the opportunity to make a 100-word statement to be distributed with the ballot.

- **Inaugural Shoenfield Prize Winners.** Upon the recommendation of the ASL Committee on Prizes and Awards, the winners of the first Shoenfield Prizes for outstanding expository writing in the field of logic have been selected. The Shoenfield Prize for a book will be shared by John P. Burgess for *Fixing Frege* (Princeton University Press, 2005) and David E. Marker for *Model Theory: an Introduction* (Springer, 2002). The prize carries a cash award of $1,500 to be shared by the two prize winners. The Shoenfield Prize for an article has been awarded to Bohuslav Balcar and Thomas Jech for "Weak distributivity, a problem of Von Neumann and the mystery of measurability," published in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, vol. 12, no. 2 (June 2006), pp. 241–266. This prize carries a cash award of $1,000 to be shared by the winning co-authors. The Shoenfield Prizes will be awarded formally at a ceremony at the 2008 ASL Annual Meeting in Irvine, California.

  The Shoenfield prize was established by the ASL to honor the late Joseph R. Shoenfield for his many outstanding contributions to logic and to the ASL. Generations of logicians have especially valued Shoenfield's expository gifts, and his writings provide models of lucidity and elegance. For general information about the Prize, visit `http://www.aslonline.org/info-prizes.html`.

- **New Member Benefit: *The Review of Symbolic Logic.*** Beginning in 2008, individual ASL members will receive the new ASL journal, *The Review of Symbolic Logic*, as an additional benefit of membership. Publication of the *RSL* by Cambridge University Press will commence in June 2008, and members should receive the first issue shortly thereafter.

  Joining *The Journal of Symbolic Logic* and *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* as the third official organ of the Association, the *RSL* will publish research papers in: philosophical logic and its applications; history and philosophy of logic; and philosophy and methodology of mathematics. The first heading covers all areas of philosophical logic, plus applications of these logics in such fields as computer science, linguistics, game theory and decision theory, formal epistemology, cognitive science, and artificial intelligence. The second is intended to include the history of philosophy of logic, an area that overlaps substantially with what is often called 'history of analytic philosophy'. The third area includes both the philosophy of mathematics and methodological studies of mathematical practice, past and present.

  For more information about the *RSL*, including a complete listing of the its founding Editors and Advisory Board, visit `http://www.aslonline.org/journals-review.html`.

- **ASL Newsletter via Email in September 2008.** Beginning in September 2008, the ASL Newsletter will be sent by email to all members for whom the ASL has email addresses and who do not specifically request to be sent the printed version. Details on how to exercise this "opt out" privilege and to verify that the email address that the ASL has is correct will be distributed with the 2008 membership renewal form and in future Newsletter mailings.

- **Call for Proposals: 2010 Annual Meeting.** The ASL Committee on Meetings in North America requests proposals for the 2010 ASL Annual meeting, to be held sometime in the first five months of 2010. The committee seeks a university somewhere in North America and a local committee to host the meeting and handle the local arrangements. The ASL meetings ordinarily cycle geographically in the pattern: East (Gainesville 2007), West (Irvine 2008), Midwest (Notre Dame 2009). Thus, for 2010 the committee seeks a location in the East. Any reasonable proposal, however, will be considered. For more information, interested parties should contact the Committee Chair, Deirdre Haskell (email: `haskell@math.mcmaster.ca`) no later than November 1, 2007.

- **Call for Proposals: 2009 AMS-ASL Joint Special Session.** The ASL Committee on Meetings in North America requests proposals for an AMS-ASL Joint Special Session to be held at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Washington, DC, January 7–10, 2009. Proposals or requests for further information should be sent to the Committee Chair, Deirdre Haskell (email: `haskell@math.mcmaster.ca`). The deadline for receipt of proposals is January 23, 2008.

- **Cambridge University Press New Publisher of ASL Books.** Cambridge University Press became the official publisher for the ASL book publishing program, effective October 1, 2006, replacing A.K. Peters, Ltd. All ASL books published by A.K. Peters prior to October 1, 2006 will continue to be marketed and made available by that publisher. For more information about the ASL book publishing program, visit `http://www.aslonline.org/books.html`.

- **Special Sale of ASL Books.** For a limited time, the ASL is making available the following volumes from its book series at an additional discount.

  Lecture Notes in Logic (each volume $12 for ASL members, $16 for non-members): LNL vol. 11, *Logic Colloquium '95; Proceedings of the Annual European Summer Meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic, held in Haifa, Israel, August 9-18, 1995*; LNL vol. 12, *Logic Colloquium '96; Proceedings of the Colloquium held in San Sebastian, Spain, July 9-15, 1996*.

  Perspectives in Logic (each volume $18 for ASL members, $24 for non-members): *Essential Stability Theory* by S. Buechler; *Metamathematics of First Order Arithmetic* by P. Hajek and P. Pudlak.

To order these volumes, contact the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Tel: 1-845-437-7080; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`.

ASL MEETINGS

- **Student Travel Awards: The 2008 ASL Annual Meeting, 2008 ASL European Summer Meeting, and other ASL or ASL-Sponsored Meetings.** The ASL will make available modest travel awards to graduate students in logic and (for the European Summer Meeting only) to recent Ph.D.'s so that they may attend the 2008 ASL Annual Meeting in Irvine, California, or the 2008 ASL European Summer Meeting in Bern, Switzerland; see below for information about these meetings. Student members of the ASL also may apply for travel grants to other ASL or ASL-sponsored meetings. To be considered for a Travel Award, please (1) send a letter of application, and (2) ask your thesis supervisor to send a brief recommendation letter. The application letter should be brief (preferably one page) and should include: (1) your name; (2) your home institution; (3) your thesis supervisor's name; (4) a one-paragraph description of your studies and work in logic, *and, in the case of an ASL student member application to attend an ASL or ASL-sponsored meeting other than the Annual Meeting or European Summer Meeting*, a paragraph indicating why it is important to attend the meeting; (5) your estimate of the travel expenses you will incur; (6) (for citizens or residents of the USA) citizenship or visa status; and (7) (voluntary) indication of your gender and minority status. Women and members of minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply. In addition to funds provided by the ASL, the program of travel grants to the ASL Annual Meeting and the European Summer Meeting is supported by a grant from the US National Science Foundation; NSF funds may be awarded only to students at USA universities and to citizens and permanent residents of the USA. Air travel paid for using NSF funds must be on a US flag carrier. Application by email is encouraged; put "ASL travel application" in the subject line of your message.

  For the 2008 ASL Annual Meeting, applications and recommendations should be received before the deadline of December 21, 2007, by the Program Chair: M.C. Laskowski, Department of Mathematics, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742-4015, USA; Fax: 1-301-314-0827; email: `mcl@math.umd.edu`. Applications by email are preferred.

  For the 2008 ASL European Summer Meeting, applications and recommendations should be received before the deadline of March 14, 2008, by the Organizing Committee: Logic Colloquium 2008, Institute of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, Neubrueckstrasse 10, CH-3012 Bern, Switzerland; email: `lc08@iam.unibe.ch`.

  For ASL student member travel grants to other ASL or ASL-sponsored meetings, applications and recommendations should be received at least three months prior to the meeting at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`. Decisions will be communicated at least two months prior to the meeting.

- **2007-08 ASL Winter Meeting (with Joint Mathematics Meetings).** *January 8–9, 2008, San Diego, California.* This meeting will take place in conjunction with the Joint Mathematics Meetings, which will be held January 6–9, 2008. The invited speakers include: G. Cherlin, I. Farah, P. Hrubes, V. Marek, J. Reimann, and S. Thomas. In addition to the ASL program, there will be a joint AMS-ASL Special Session on "Set Theory and Banach Spaces," organized by C. Rosendal and S. Todorcevic. The members of the Program Committee are J. Remmel (Chair), C. Rosendal, and T. Scanlon. A registration form and hotel information is enclosed in this Newsletter mailing.

- **2008 ASL Spring Meeting (with APA).** *March 20–21, 2008, Pasadena, California.* This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the American Philosophical Association, which will be held March 18–23, 2008. The members of the Program Committee are M. Glanzberg and G. Sher (Chair). Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts. Abstracts must be received by the deadline of October 26, 2007, at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`.

- **2008 ASL Annual Meeting.** *March 27–30, 2008, Irvine, California.* The nineteenth annual Gödel lecture will be given by W. Hugh Woodin. The ASL Karp Prize and Shoenfield prizes will be awarded and there also will be a tribute to the late Paul J. Cohen. The members of the Program Committee are: M.C. Laskowski (Chair), J. Miller, T. Pitassi, E. Reck, and M. Zeman. The members of the Local Organizing Committee include: A. Antonelli (Chair), P. Eklof, M. Foreman, P. Maddy, K. Wehmeier, and M. Zeman. Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts must be received by the deadline of December 3, 2007, at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: `asl@vassar.edu`.

- **2008 ASL European Summer Meeting (Logic Colloquium '08).** *July 3–8, 2008, Bern, Switzerland.* The Program Committee includes: A. Berarducci, J. Duparc, M. Dzamonja, A. Enayat, G. Jäger, P. Kowalski, J. Krajíček, D. Marker, A. Nies, W. Tait, S. Thomas, B. Velickovic, A. Wilkie (Chair), and A. Visser. The Local Organizing Committee includes: Gerhard Jäger (Chair), J. Krähenbühl, J. Schmid, and T. Strahm. Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts—hard copy or email—should be received before the deadline of March 28, 2008 at the official meeting address: Logic Colloquium 2008, Institute of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, Neubrueckstrasse 10, CH-3012 Bern, Switzerland; email: `lc08@iam.unibe.ch`.

- **Rules for Abstracts.** The rules for abstracts of contributed talks at ASL meetings (including those submitted "by title") may be found at `http://www.aslonline.org/rules_abstracts.html`. *The rules were recently revised and all authors who wish to submit abstracts are urged to consult the new rules.* Please note that abstracts *must* follow the rules as set forth there; those which do not conform to the requirements will be returned immediately to the authors submitting them. Revised abstracts that follow the rules will be considered if they are received by the announced deadline.

ASL SPONSORED MEETINGS

- **Second Indian Winter School on Logic.** *January 14–26, 2008, Kanpur, India.* The themes for the school, with speakers in parentheses, are: Algebraic logic (M. Gehrke and R. Jansana); Beyond probabilistic uncertainty (M.K. Chakraborty and D. Dubois); Logic and games (R. Parikh and J. van Benthem); Logic, bisimulation and Markov processes (P. Panangaden); Philosophical logic (C. Chakraborti and R. Mukhopadhyay); Probabilistic logic (E. Pacuit and G. Wheeler); Set theory (J.D. Hamkins, B. Lowe, S.M. Srivastava, and A. Walczak-Typke); Spatial reasoning (G. Bezhanishvili [tentative]); and Universal logic (J.-Y. Beziau). The members of the Program Committee are: S. Ghosh, S. Krishna, K. Lodaya, N. Raja, and S.P. Suresh. The Local Coordinators are M. Banerjee and A. Seth. For further information, visit `http://home.iitk.ac.in/~mohua/school/school.htm`.

- **Fifth International Symposium on Foundations of Information and Knowledge Systems (FoIKS 2008).** *February 11–15, 2008, Pisa, Italy.* The Co-chairs of the Program Committee are S. Hartmann and G. Kern-Isberner. For further information, visit `http://2008.foiks.org/`.

- **Workshop on Dependent Theories.** *March 25–28, 2008, Villa de Leyva, Colombia.* This is the second in a series of workshops in model theory targeted towards graduate and advanced undergraduate students. The topic for this event is dependent theories. Tutorials will be offered by L. van den Dries, A. Pillay, and A. Usvyatsov; the program also includes exercise sessions. The Organizers are A. Berenstein and A. Onshuus. For further information, visit `http://pentagono.uniandes.edu.co/~aberenst/dependent.htm`.

- **2008 Conference on Computability, Complexity and Randomness (CCR2008).** *May 19–23, 2008, Nanjing, China.* The invited speakers include: L. Bienvenu, C.T. Chong, N. Greenberg, B. Kjos-Hanssen, S. Lempp, J. Reimann, T. Slaman, and X. Zhao. The members of the Program Committee are: V. Becher, R. Downey, D. Hirschfeldt, J. Lutz, W. Merkle, J. Miller, and L. Yu. The Local Organizers are D. Deng and L. Yu. For further information, visit `http://ims.nju.edu.cn/conference/randomness/`.

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- **Twenty-third Annual IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS 2008).** *June 24–27, 2008, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.* The LICS Symposium is an annual international forum on theoretical and practical topics in computer science that relate to logic in a broad sense. LICS 2008 will be co-located with the IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium (CSF). The LICS Program Chair is F. Pfenning, the LICS General Chair is M. Abadi, and the LICS Conference Chair is S. Brookes. For further information about LICS, visit `http://www2.informatik.hu-berlin.de/lics/lics08`; for additional information about CSF, visit `http://www.ieee-security.org/CSFWweb/`.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (Also see `http://www.aslonline.org`.)

- **2007 Ackermann Award Winners.** The European Association for Computer Science Logic (EASCSL) has announced the winners of its 2007 Outstanding Dissertation Award for Logic in Computer Science, the Ackermann Award. The 2007 Award will be shared by: Dietmar Berwanger for his thesis, "Games and Logical Expressiveness" (RWTH Aachen; Advisor: Erich Graedel); Stephane Lengrand for his thesis, "Normalization and Equivalence in Proof Theory and Type Theory" (Universite de Paris VII and University of St. Andrews; Advisors: Delia Kesner and Roy Dyckhoff); and Ting Zhang for his thesis, "Arithmetic Integration of Decision Procedures" (Stanford University; Advisor: Zohar Manna). The Jury members were: S. Abramsky, J. van Benthem, B. Courcelle, M. Grohe, M. Hyland, J. Makowsky, D. Niwinski, and A. Razborov. For further information, visit `http://users.dimi.uniud.it/eacsl/award.html`.

- **Call for Nominations: 2008 Ackermann Award.** The European Association for Computer Science Logic (EASCSL) invites submissions for its Outstanding Dissertation Award for Logic in Computer Science (Ackermann Award). To be eligible for the 2008 Ackermann Award, the candidate must have completed a Ph.D. dissertation in topics specified by the EACSL and LICS conferences that was formally accepted as a Ph.D. thesis at a university or equivalent institution between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2007. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2008; details are available at `http://www.dimi.uniud.it/~eacsl/award.html`.

CALENDAR OF OTHER MEETINGS (Also see `http://www.aslonline.org`.)

- **Haifa Verification Conference (HVC 2007).** *October 23–25, 2007, Haifa, Israel.* This is the third annual conference dedicated to advancing the verification and testing of both hardware and software. The conference scope includes formal verification of both hardware and software, hardware simulation techniques, and software testing. For further information, visit `http://www.haifa.il.ibm.com/Workshops/verification2007/`.

- **Theory of Functions, Algebra, and Mathematical Logics.** *November 1–3, 2007, Almaty, Kazakhstan.* This international conference is in honor of the ninetieth birthday of A.D. Taimanov. The conference program consists of three sections: algebra, geometry and topology; mathematical logic and its application to computer sciences; and, theory of functions and differential equations. The Co-chairs of the Program Committee are Yu.L. Ershov and T.Sh. Kalmenov. The Co-chairs of the Organizing Committee are M.T. Dzhenaliyev and M.K. Orunkhanov. For further information, visit `http://mmf.kazsu.kz/konf/TFAL-2007/index.en.html`.

- **Sixth Mexican International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (MICAI 2007).** *November 4–10, 2007, Aguascalientes, Mexico.* This event includes several topics of interest to logicians. For further information, visit `http://www.micai.org/2007/`.

- **Conference in honor of the Sixtieth Birthday of Andreas Blass.** *November 9–10, 2007, Fields Institute, Toronto, Canada.* The invited speakers include: T. Bartoszynski, A. Dow, T. Eisworth, R. Goebel, Y. Gurevich, N. Hindman, P. Hinman, B. Kastermans, C. Laflamme, H. Mildenberger, A. Miller, B. Sagan, A. Scedrov, and G. Weiss. The Organizer is C. Laflamme. For further information, visit `http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/07-08/blassconference/`.

Calendar of other meetings continued on reverse side

- **International Conference on Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design (FMCAD 2007).** *November 11–14, 2007, Austin, Texas.* This event, the seventh in a series on the theory and application of formal methods in hardware and system design and verification, provides a forum for researchers and practitioners in academia and industry. Tutorials will be offered by: R. Brayton, R. Bryant, N. Een, and F. Najm. The Co-chairs of the Program Committee are J. Baumgartner and M. Sheeran. FMCAD 2007 is co-located with ACL2 2007 (see below or visit `http://www.cs.uwyo.edu/~ruben/acl2-07/Main/HomePage`). For further information about FMCAD 2007, visit `http://fmcad.org/2007`.
- **Seventh International Workshop on the ACL2 Theorem Prover and its Applications (ACL2 2007).** *November 15–16, 2007, Austin, Texas.* The seventh in a series of workshops, this event provides the major technical forum for researchers to present and discuss improvements and extensions to the theorem prover ACL2, comparisons of ACL2 with other systems, and applications of ACL2 in industry, government, and academia. The Co-chairs of the Organizing Committee are: J. Cowles, R. Gamboa, and J. Sawada. ACL2 2007 is colocated with FMCAD 2007 (see above or visit `http://fmcad.org/2007`). For further information about ACL2 2007, visit `http://www.cs.uwyo.edu/~ruben/acl2-07/Main/HomePage`.
- **Appalachian Set Theory.** *November 17, 2007, Athens, Ohio.* This event is a one-day workshop given by S. Thomas on countable Borel equivalence relations. For further information, visit `http://www.math.cmu.edu/~eschimme/Appalachian/Index.html`.
- **Fifth Workshop on "Methods for Modalities" (M4M-5)** *November 29-30, 2007, Cachan, France.* This event aims to bring together researchers interested in developing algorithms, verification methods, and tools based on modal logics broadly conceived, including temporal logic, description logic, guarded fragments, conditional logic, and temporal and hybrid logic. The invited speakers include: A. Bouajjani, P. Bouyer, B. ten Cate, K. Claessen, W. van der Hoek. The Co-chairs of the Program Committee are C. Areces and S. Demri. For further information, visit `http://m4m.loria.fr/M4M5`.
- **Very Informal Gathering (VIG 2008).** *February 1–3, 2008, Los Angeles, California.* This periodic gathering of logicians takes place at UCLA. The invited speakers include: J. Avigad, D. Haskell, J. Moore, C. Pollett, J. Reimann, and C. Rosendal. For additional information, visit `http://www.logic.ucla.edu` or send email to Y. Moschovakis (`ynm@math.ucla.edu`).
- **Tenth International Conference on Relational Methods in Computer Science (RelMiCS 10) and Fifth International Conference on Applications of Kleene Algebra (AKA 5).** *April 7–11, 2008, Frauenwoerth, Germany.* The RelMiCS meetings have been a main forum for researchers who use the calculus of relations and similar algebraic formalisms as methodological and conceptual tools. The workshop series on Applications of Kleene algebra began in 2001 and has been co-organized with RelMiCS since then. The invited speakers are M. Pauly and G. Schmidt. The conference will include a Ph.D. training program, details about which will be announced soon. The Local Organizers are R. Berghammer and B. Möller. For further information,visit `http://www.uni-augsburg.de/rel_aka`.
- **Twentieth European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI-2008).** *August 4–15, 2008, Hamburg, Germany.* The European Summer Schools in Logic, Language and Information focus on the interface between linguistics, logic and computation. Foundational, introductory and advanced courses together with workshops cover a wide variety of topics within the three areas of interest: Language and Computation, Language and Logic, and Logic and Computation. ESSLLI-2008 is organized under the auspices of the European Association for Logic, Language and Information (FoLLI). For more information about ESSLLI-2008, visit `http://www.illc.uva.nl/ESSLLI2008/`; for further information about FoLLI, see `http://www.folli.org`.

The next Newsletter will be mailed in November, 2007. Items to be included should reach the Secretary-Treasurer before November 1, 2007.

Submitted by Charles Steinhorn, Secretary-Treasurer.