Foreword

A new era in mathematics is in dawning, as fields continue to cross-fertilize each other and successive challenges consequently mount to cultivate new basic ideas and to formulate and solve new problems.

Our purpose is to bring significant momentum to this new period, by creating conditions that will encourage researchers in the pioneering spirit and action that are needed to explore the mathematical frontiers. Accordingly, symposia will be organized on important topics in pure mathematics, bringing mathematicians of various specialities together in a consciousness of the new directions that are defining themselves.

The organizational activity for the symposia will be provisionally based at the Department of Mathematics of Nagoya University, and the proceedings of the symposia will be published under the title *Advanced Studies in Pure Mathematics*. The board of editors of each volume will consist of the core members listed below plus some of the members of the program committee of each particular symposium.

Efforts are being made at the present time to obtain government approval for establishing a new institute for advanced studies in pure mathematics. At such time as this institute comes into being, the activities described above will be transferred thereto.

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