

The advanced research network “Foundation of a Global Research Cooperative Center in Mathematics focused on Number Theory and Geometry” was funded by JSPS through its Core-to-Core Program from April 2014 until March 2019. The network involved 12 universities, including King’s College London (KCL), from 11 countries. The coordinator of the network was Professor Masato Kurihara from Keio University and I was the coordinator at KCL.

Through the grant period we organised five UK-Japan Winter Schools in the UK (see <https://nms.kcl.ac.uk/juergen.berndt/wsgeninfo.html>) and the grant provided financial support for many Japanese participants. The aim of these Schools is to bring together Japanese and UK scientists, in particular also young researchers and students from mathematics and mathematical physics. New collaborations between mathematicians from the UK and Japan originated at these Schools. Matching funding was obtained from EPSRC, the London Mathematical Society, and the universities hosting the Schools. The 2018 Winter School on Number Theory was held at KCL and organised locally by Dr Mahesh Kakde and Dr James Newton.

Funds from the program were used to organise at the University of Tokyo the international conference Iwasawa 2017 (<http://www.iwasawa2017.com>) to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Professor Kenkichi Iwasawa. There were 236 participants. Professor David Burns and Dr Mahesh Kakde from KCL were invited speakers.

Professor Kurihara’s graduate student Takamichi Sano visited KCL several times for joint work with Professor David Burns, funded by the grant. Their research lead to several joint articles and the collaboration is still ongoing. Sano has been appointed as Associate Professor at Osaka City University and is currently visiting KCL funded through another JSPS grant.

The grant period coincided with the first five years of the London School of Geometry and Number Theory (LSGNT; <https://www.lsgnt-cdt.ac.uk>), which is an EPSRC funded centre for doctoral training and jointly managed by Imperial College London, University College London and KCL. Many PhD students in LSGNT benefitted from joint activities and met colleagues from the UK and Japan with joint interests.

Jürgen Berndt, 2nd May 2019