André Lichnerowicz prize in Poisson geometry - 2010

The André Lichnerowicz prize was established in 2008 to be awarded for notable contributions to Poisson geometry. The prize is to be awarded every two years at the "International Conference on Poisson Geometry in Mathematics and Physics" to researchers who had completed their doctorates at most eight years before the year of the Conference.

The prize was named in memory of André Lichnerowicz (1915-1998) whose work was fundamental in establishing Poisson geometry as a branch of mathematics. In 2010, it was awarded by a jury composed of the members of the scientific and advisory committees of the biennial Poisson Conference. The prize amount was 500 euros for each recipient and the funds were provided by the host institution of the Conference, the Instituto Nacional de Matemática Pura e Aplicada (IMPA), Rio de Janeiro.

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<p align="center">The prize for the year 2010 was awarded to
Marco Gualtieri and Xiang Tang
on July 26, 2010 at IMPA in Rio de Janeiro.</p>

Marco Gualtieri received his doctorate at Oxford University in 2004 under the direction of Nigel Hitchin. After holding post-doctoral positions at MSRI, Berkeley, at the Fields Institute in Toronto and at MIT, he joined the Department of Mathematics at the University of Toronto, where he is an assistant professor. His pioneering work on generalized geometry has been the source of inspiration for many related studies. Already in his Ph. D. thesis he developed the basic structure theory of generalized complex geometry as well as of generalized Kähler geometry. Since then he has been studying generalized geometry and its applications to physics independently and in collaboration with Gil Cavalcanti, Henrique Bursztyn and Vestislav Apostolov. More recently, he has studied D-branes in generalized complex manifolds and their relation to noncommutative geometry, as well as further generalizations of classical geometries.

Xiang Tang completed his Ph. D. in mathematics at the University of California at Berkeley in 2004 under the direction of Alan Weinstein. He subsequently held a post-doctoral position at the University of California Davis, before becoming an assistant professor at Washington University in Saint Louis. A primary focus of his work has been on index theorems on singular spaces, where he uses the tools of noncommutative geometry (cyclic cohomology, K-theory, the general index theorems of Connes-Moscovici and Nest-Tsygan) in combination with algebraic and geometric structures arising from Poisson geometry. Among his important contributions, independently and in collaboration, are a new proof of the Atiyah-Weinstein conjecture on the index of Fourier integral operators and the relative index of CR structures, the study of non-commutative Poisson structures on orbifolds, the study of various Hopf-like structures and the index theory on orbifolds.