

For Immediate Release

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Mathematics Think Tank Breaks Ground for New Addition

\$9 million project makes room for research in
mathematics, science and technology

Berkeley, CA. University mathematicians join leaders in business, technology and higher education in a groundbreaking ceremony on June 10, 2004, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. for the Mathematical Science Research Institute (MSRI). Recognized as the world's premier center for collaborative research, MSRI is expanding facilities with a new, \$9 million, 14,000 gross square foot addition to its current building on the University of California, Berkeley campus.

"This isn't the first groundbreaking event for MSRI," comments William Hearst III, MSRI trustee. "Since its founding in 1982, MSRI's leading-edge programs have led to exploration and discovery in the sciences, medical breakthroughs and important technological advances." Over 1,700 researchers from the U.S. and abroad visit MSRI annually, including awardees of the Fields Medal and the Abel Prize. The Institute actively recruits the participation of women and underrepresented minority mathematicians in its programs. Other activities include free public events on mathematics topics, and special events such as "Funny Numbers," with actors Steve Martin and Robin Williams.

Designed by William R. Glass and Associates of Oakland, CA, the MSRI addition will accommodate a projected three-fold growth in library holdings and improve lecture facilities with a state-of-the-art auditorium. Enhanced audio-visual capabilities will expand services, such as the Institute's V-MATH streaming video system, which provides free Internet viewing of MSRI lectures to scholars around the world. MSRI's art competition winners Linda Vanderkolk and Scott Frankenberger have designed a geometric tile mural for the new entry forecourt, "Tesselation Tango," currently on view at:

<http://www.msri.org/events/art/entries/lv1.html>

MSRI is an independent, non-profit organization supported by over seventy-five leading universities, the private sector, the National Science Foundation Division of Mathematical Sciences, and the National Security Agency.