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אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
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**The Department of Mathematics and the Center of Advanced Studies in Mathematics
announce a special meeting to mark the award of
the Noriko Sakurai fellowship and the Friedman prize for the year 2017**

Tuesday, May 23 at 14:00 at the Deichmann building for Mathematics (58), Seminar room -101

Program:

14:00 Gathering, light refreshments

14:25 **Opening remarks:**

Prof. Miriam Cohen,

Director of the Center of Advanced Studies in Mathematics

Prof. Daniel Sternheimer,

Rikkyo (Japan) and Bourgogne (France) Universities

14:35 **Honorary lecture:**

Prof. Yuri Tschinkel, NYU, Simons Foundation

Title: Rationality problems

Abstract: A classical problem in algebraic geometry is to determine how close an algebraic variety is to projective space. The relevant notions: rationality, stable rationality and unirationality, have been intensely studied for many decades. I will report on recent advances that allowed to essentially settle the problem of stable rationality of very general threefolds.

15:25 **The 2017 Noriko Sakurai fellowship award ceremony and a lecture**

by **Dr. Kyle Austin**, recipient of the Noriko Sakurai fellowship

Title: "Approximation in Dynamics"

15:35 **The 2017 Friedman prize award ceremony and a lecture**

by **Nili Vilkin**, recipient of the Friedman prize

Title: TBA

You are cordially invited

Professor Miriam Cohen and Professor Menachem Kojman