PRESS RELEASE

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Annalisa Buffa
Named
AWM-SIAM Sonia Kovalevsky Lecturer

The Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) announce that Annalisa Buffa has been selected as the 2023 Sonia Kovalevsky Lecturer. Her lecture will be delivered at the 10th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM 2023) taking place in Tokyo, Japan, August 20 – 25, 2023.

Citation. Professor Annalisa Buffa is among the most influential applied mathematicians of her generation; she has made pioneering contributions to modelling electromagnetism in non-smooth domains and the corresponding numerical methods. Moreover, she has contributed substantially to optimising the interplay of geometry and analysis in the simulation of solids and structures. These results are of seminal importance as they impact engineering applications and industrial mathematics, as well as offer deep contributions to the development and analysis of numerical methods in their own right.

Biographical Sketch. Annalisa Buffa is a professor of Mathematics at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

since 2016 and, prior to this, she has been the director and a research director of the Instituto di Matematica Applicata e Tecnologie informatiche of the Italian National Research Council (CNR). Corresponding member of the Accademia dei Lincei, foreign member of the Académie des Sciences, and member of Academia Europaea, Annalisa Buffa is a leading expert in the numerical analysis of partial differential equations. Her interests span from geometric design, computational mechanics, and computational electromagnetics to approximation theory, and functional analysis for PDEs. She received an ERC Starting grant in 2008, and an ERC Advanced grant in 2016, she is a recipient of the Collatz prize from the ICIAM (2015), and she will deliver the Sonia Kovalevsky Lecture at ICIAM 2024. She has been a plenary speaker at several venues, including the ECCOMAS conference in 2022, AIMS Conference on Dynamical Systems, Differential Equations and Applications in 2018, the International Congress of Mathematicians (section 15, 2014), the ICIAM in 2015, the GAMM conference and the FoCM conferences in 2014. Annalisa Buffa is a highly cited researcher, according to ISI (2019).

The Kovalevsky Lecture honors Sonia Kovalevsky (1850–1891), the most widely known Russian mathematician of the late 19th century. In 1874, Kovalevsky received her Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Göttingen and was appointed lecturer at the University of Stockholm in 1883. Kovalevsky did her most important work in the theory of differential equations.