

## **Sylvia Bozeman – LMS Honorary Member citation**

### **Short citation:**

The London Mathematical Society has elected Sylvia Bozeman, Professor Emerita of Spelman College, USA, to Honorary Membership of the Society. Sylvia Bozeman has had a vast influence on the mathematical sciences through her tireless service to the community, and particularly to the cause of promoting equity and diversity by increasing the participation of women, and women from underrepresented groups, in the mathematical community.

### **Long citation:**

The London Mathematical Society has elected Professor Sylvia Bozeman to Honorary Membership of the Society.

Sylvia Bozeman received her PhD in 1980 at Emory University under the supervision of Luis Kramarz for her elegant work on Fredholm operators. In 1991 she became a full professor in the mathematics department at Spelman College, the oldest historically Black women's college in the USA, where she also served as Associate Provost. She also established the Center for the Scientific Applications of Mathematics at Spelman, serving as its Director from 1993 until 2003.

Bozeman's track record of service to the wider mathematical community is both vast and impactful. In 1998, she co-founded the Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE) programme, designed to equip women with tools for the successful navigation of PhD programmes and careers in the mathematical sciences, with the goal of increasing diversity and equity, particularly with respect to gender and race. EDGE has since grown enormously, having been hosted at many different institutions including Oxford University in 2021, and boasting over 130 alumnae completing PhDs, including many who have gone on to leadership roles in the mathematical community. The EDGE programme has received numerous accolades, including the American Mathematical Society (AMS) award for Mathematics Programs that Make a Difference, and the US Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring.

Bozeman's efforts to encourage women from underrepresented groups to pursue advanced degrees in the mathematical sciences were recognized by President Obama in 2016 when he appointed her to the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science. Her numerous other awards and accolades include Fellowship of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as well as selection for the inaugural class of Fellows of both the AMS and the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM). She has also served on the executive boards of several learned societies, including the AMS, the AWM, and the Mathematical Association of America.