



For immediate release
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2024 Hall Medal is awarded to Geertrui Van de Voorde

Hall Medals recognize **extensive quality research with substantial international impact** by Fellows of the ICA in mid-career.

Geertrui Van de Voorde obtained a PhD in Mathematics from Ghent University in 2010. She held postdoctoral research positions at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) from 2010 to 2012 and at Ghent University through postdoctoral fellowships from the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) from 2012 to 2017. Since 2017, she has held a permanent position at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand, initially as a Lecturer. In 2019, she was promoted to Senior Lecturer, and as of January 1, 2024, she is an Associate Professor.

Dr. Van de Voorde's research focuses on finite projective spaces, their substructures, and their applications in coding theory and related areas. She is the co-author of 50 publications in international mathematical journals and has made significant contributions to the study of linear codes arising from finite geometries, partial covers, blocking sets, pseudo-arcs, pseudo-ovals, pseudo-caps, linear sets, Korchmáros-Mazzocca arcs, Sudoku Latin squares, and unitals.

She is recognized as a leading expert in the use of the geometric technique of field reduction and the application of linear sets in finite geometry. Her most notable results include: (1) a complete characterization of small minimal k -blocking sets in $PG(n, p^3)$, p prime; (2) a result on extending pseudo-arcs in odd characteristic; (3) the study of linear sets of minimum size and a complete description of the weight distribution of linear sets in $PG(1, q^5)$; (4) the construction of new infinite classes of elation Korchmáros-Mazzocca arcs.

The Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications is an international scholarly society that was founded in 1990 by Ralph Stanton; the ICA was established for the purpose of promoting the development of combinatorics and of encouraging publications and conferences in combinatorics and its applications.