



For immediate release
July 6th, 2026

Contact: Sarah Heuss
Secretary of the ICA
Email: sarah.heuss@gmail.com
url: www.the-ica.org

2025 Stanton Medal awarded to Gary Mullen

Stanton Medals honour significant lifetime contributions to promoting the discipline of combinatorics through advocacy, outreach, service, teaching and/or mentoring.

Prof. Gary Mullen of the Pennsylvania State University has made significant and sustained contributions to the combinatorics community over the course of his distinguished career. He served in positions from Associate Head of Department to Associate Dean and received the Eberly College of Science Distinguished Service Award. He is interested in outreach, teaching and mentoring. He was a co-PI for an NSF funded project building vertically integrated training initiatives from K-12 through postdocs. Four of his books are widely used undergraduate textbooks designed to make advanced topics accessible to students.

Within the combinatorics community, Prof. Mullen has played a foundational role by founding and editing journals and organizing major conferences. His Handbook of Finite Fields stands as a comprehensive and indispensable reference for researchers in the field. Through numerous research papers and invited lectures, he has actively fostered collaboration, highlighted open problems, and articulated motivating conjectures that have guided further work. He is a member of the AMS, MAA and a long standing and active participant in the ICA, publishing in BICA, being a member of council and involved in The Southeastern Conference which has a long association with the ICA.

Prof. Mullen's career reflects an exceptional record of service, leadership, and advocacy within the combinatorics community, coupled with a consistent dedication to teaching and mentoring.

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.