

Please Post: Preliminary Announcement

**The Triannual Ahlfors-Bers Colloquium
May 8-11, 2008 at Rutgers-Newark**

This is the next in a series of triannual colloquia devoted to the mathematical legacy of Lars Ahlfors and Lipman Bers. The core of this legacy concerns geometric function theory, quasiconformal mapping, Teichmüller theory and Kleinian groups, hyperbolic manifolds, and partial differential equations including Schram/Stochastic-Loewner-Evolution/Equations. In addition the work of Ahlfors and Bers has had an impact on algebraic geometry, mathematical physics, dynamics, geometric group theory, number theory and topology.

Plenary speakers include:

Alex Eskin (Chicago)	David Gabai (Princeton)
William Goldman (Maryland)	Ursula Hamenstadt (Bonn)
Christopher Leininger (Urbana)	William Minicozzi (Hopkins)
Stephanie Pertermichl (U. Texas)	Alan Reid (U. Texas)
Steffan Rhode (U. Washington)	Richard Schwartz (Brown)
*Stanislav Smirnov (Geneva)	

* = tentative

The plenary talks will begin on the afternoon of May 9th. Several workshops will be organized and will run in parallel sessions all day on May 8th and during the morning of May 9th.

There will also be a panel discussion *Lipman Bers as Mentor*. This should be of interest to current mentees and mentors alike. Panelists will include Bers' doctoral students Professor Rubi Rodriguez, President of the Chilean Mathematics Society and Professor Eddie Williams, Vice-president and Chief Financial Officer at Northern Illinois University.

Further information will be posted shortly on our currently under construction web-site <http://ab2008.newark.rutgers.edu> For now information can be obtained by e-mailing ab2008@andromeda.rutgers.edu or gilman@rutgers.edu.

Send us e-mail if you want to be on the mailing list. Please also send us e-mail addresses of people who should be added to our e-mail list.

Scientific Organizing Committee: Kari Astala, (Helsinki), Mario Bonk (Michigan), Dick Canary (Michigan), Alex Eremenko (Purdue), Jane Gilman, chair (Rutgers-Newark), Juha Heinonen (Michigan), Howard Masur (UIC), Yair Minsky (Yale), Mike Wolfe (Rice), Scott Wolpert (Maryland)

Local Organizing Committee: Mark Feighn, Jane Gilman, John Loftin, Lee Mosher, & Chengwen Wang