The Jeffery-Williams Lectureship was inaugurated in 1968 to recognize mathematicians who have made outstanding contributions to mathematical research and is presented in conjunction with the Canadian Mathematical Society's Summer Meeting.

La conférence Jeffery-Williams, créée en 1968, rend hommage aux mathématiciens qui se sont distingués par leur apport exceptionnel à la recherche en mathématiques. Elle est présentée dans le cadre de la réunion d'été de la Société mathématique du Canada.

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The 28th Jeffery-Williams Prize Lecture Le 28ème Prix de conférence Jeffery-Williams



Robert V. Moody University of Alberta

1995 CMS Summer Meeting Réunion d'été 1995 de la SMC Toronto, Ontario June / juin 1995

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION DONNÉES BIOGRAPHIQUES

Robert V. Moody is a professor of mathematics at the University of Alberta. He obtained his B.A. from the University of Saskatchewan (1962), his M.A. from the University of Toronto (1964) and his Ph.D. also from the University of Toronto (1966). Before teaching at the University of Alberta, he was a full professor at the Department of Mathematics, University of Saskatchewan.

He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a member of the Canadian and American Mathematical Societies. He was the Coxeter-James Lecturer in 1978, was awarded the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Fellowship in 1981 and also awarded the 1994-1996 Eugene Wigner Medal (jointly with V. Kac) for "work on affine Lie algebras that has influenced many areas of theoretical physics".

Aperiodic Crystals and Coxeter groups.

Robert V. Moody

About 10 years ago experimental physicists constructed the first examples of crystal-like compounds exhibiting "forbidden" symmetries. The most important and intriguing of these symmetries are those of the so-called non-crystallographic Coxeter groups, particularly icosahedral symmetry. In this tallk we discuss some of the enigmas surrounding these new aperiodic crystals and look at the mathematics that is being used to try and understand them, including symmetry, root systems, harmonic analysis, and number theory.