

YEAR-END FINALE

I am always a little intimidated when writing a year-end piece. It is somewhat reminiscent of a thesis defence: all the materials are finalized, submitted and even reviewed, yet it is this official culmination of the entire process that packs the most significance and emotions. You are supposed to summarize, for yourself and others, the results of all the hard work and do so in a very disproportional amount of time and space with respect to how long it actually took to arrive at said results: a 20-minute presentation for a 5-year degree. Or, in my current situation, a one-page year-end summary for a 450-page Volume 41 of *Cruz*. Intimidating. So I will be brief.

This Volume did not quite take a year; in fact, it took just over 7 months, which is great news considering our production backlog that has now been significantly reduced. This is a result of great efforts and even greater commitment on the part of my remarkable Editorial Board : my editors not only do not complain about the workload, but rather welcome the challenge while specifically upholding the high standards set for the publication. To everyone who has contributed to this Volume, my sincere thank you.

The Canadian Mathematical Society office has also been instrumental in allowing us to move forward at this pace : our Managing Editor Denise Charron and her staff have made sure the administrative side of things has always moved along smoothly and most efficiently. It is Denise and our developer Steve La Rocque that I have to thank for the most exciting recent addition to *Cruz* : the implementation of our new online submission system!

Overall, it has been an eventful year, which is not surprising : *Cruz* is a very dynamic publication as we draw the majority of the materials from our readers, so every issue is only superficially the same. Furthermore, different editors continuously provide different perspectives and altogether it moulds the publication into the unique problem-solving resource that it is. So, without further ado, here is the last issue of Volume 41 and I am looking forward to all your contributions to Volume 42.

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