The National Science Foundation has provided us with some funding to give financial assistance to a limited number of students and postdoctoral associates wishing to attend SPM 2005. Funding will be awarded based upon the following criteria:

1. Priority will be given to authors of papers accepted at the conference.
2. Recommendations from the applicant’s faculty advisor will be taken into account.
3. If the number of qualified applicants exceeds our grant quota, priority will be given to graduate students over postdoctoral associates.

An academic selection committee will review the applications and a decision will be made by June 6, 2005 and communicated to the applicants by email.

Applicants for funding are strongly encouraged to register for the conference and reserve dormitory rooms now, rather than waiting for a response from the selection committee. Successful applicants who have already incurred expenses such as registration, dormitory fees, etc, will have their expenses refunded up to the limits described below. Applicants planning to attend SMI are encouraged to apply also for SMI funding. This will not in any way prejudice any application for SPM funding.

**WHAT THE AWARD INCLUDES**

A. *Local Students:* Defined as MIT students or other students within daily commuting distance of the conference.
- Student conference registration fee ($200).

B. Non-Local Students:
- Student conference registration fee ($200).
- A proportion of out of pocket travel expenses.
- Accommodation in one of the MIT dormitories for up to three nights.

Note: The combined travel expenses and dormitory accommodation may not exceed $390.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

- Graduate students enrolled in universities in the USA.
- May/June 2005 graduates of universities in the USA.
- Postdoctoral Associates in universities in the USA.
- Funding is restricted to U.S. citizens, permanent residents of the U.S. and applicants with J1, F1 or H1 visas.

HOW TO APPLY:

Students and postdoctoral associates wishing to apply for funding must submit a statement of their objectives at the conference also explaining their need for support. Applicants must also request that their faculty advisor email a letter of reference and a copy of the student's transcript (scanned electronic copy).

Applications by students and letters of reference should be sent to the Convention Manager, Ms. Marge Chryssostomidis by email at cmarge@mit.edu by Tuesday, May 31.