The year 2017 took the recognition of the next generation of permanent faculty at the center to a new level, with Søren Galatius receiving the Danish Elite Researcher Prize 2017, and Nathalie Wahl receiving an ERC Consolidator Grant. This raises the total number of ERC grants the center has received to 5, the highest number for any single research center in Denmark, we believe.

Research continued to charge ahead, full speed, with new papers in *Annals*, *JAMS*, etc., and many events dispersed throughout the year.

**ACTIVITIES.** The center hosted 2 large conferences, a workshop, 5 masterclasses, and 168 individual visitors in 2017 making for a busy year. It being an odd year, we hosted the Young Mathematicians in C∗–algebras, which this time featured minicourses by Kate Juschenko and Guoliang Yu, in addition to short talks by budding operator algebraists from around the world. As a new initiative, the event was preceeded by a smaller workshop entitled Young Women in C∗–Algebras, giving female researchers an extra chance to interact, before the main event. It was deemed a great success!

**RESEARCH.** The year featured a number of research breakthroughs: Barthel and coauthors released their paper showing that chromatic homotopy is algebraic, “asymptotically in the prime $p$”, using a completely new toolbox, inspired by mathematical logic. Likewise Grodal–Lahtinen connected different areas of mathematics by establishing a new and unanticipated connection between string topology and the cohomology of finite groups of Lie type. And Hingston–Wahl, in a more geometric direction, showed that string topology can be used to determine intersection multiplicities. Highlights from previous years got accepted in the very top journals, with the Galatius–Randal-Williams work on homological stability of high dimensional manifolds appearing as a two-part treatise in *JAMS* and *Annals of Math* and the work of Wang–Xu on smooth structures on spheres likewise appearing in the *Annals*. In all we had 41 published papers and 44 additions to our preprint series CPH-SYM-DNRF92 on arXiv.org in 2017, with 10 postdocs and 11 PhD students at the center.

**EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.** The center supervised 7 PhD theses, 11 MS thesis, and 10 BS theses, and taught 15 courses directly related to the center’s research. Both the number of graduating PhD students and number of BS theses were new records, the last number reflecting a deliberate effort to involve more postdocs in undergraduate supervision.

Please visit sym.math.ku.dk for more information.