



## The OEIS Foundation

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“OEIS is an amazing instrumental resource, ... a model both for curation and for moderation.”

— J. M. Borwein, AMS Fellow

“The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences (OEIS) is a triumph, residing at the intersection of mathematics and technology, and appealing to specialists and novices alike. It serves not just as an immense repository (to inform authors of data and connections they may have overlooked), but also as a feedback loop (to motivate and drive research into previously unimagined lines of thought).”

— Steven Finch, June 2021,  
writing in *The Mathematical Intelligencer* 43, 146–147

## OEIS Foundation Seeks to Raise \$3M Endowment to Fund Full-Time Managing Editor

The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences, or OEIS (<https://oeis.org>), has been called the Master Index to mathematics, a fingerprint file for mathematics, and the most useful mathematics site on the web. It gives accurate and comprehensive information about more than 360,000 integer sequences. If you come across the sequence 1, 2, 4, 9, 21, 51, 127, ... in your work, the OEIS will identify it for you, and will give you relevant formulas, references, computer programs, etc. There is no other web site in the world like it.

The database was founded by Neil Sloane in 1964 and is now in its 59th year. For more background, see the recent article “A Handbook of Integer Sequences’ Fifty Years Later“, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.03149>.

The OEIS receives about a million hits a day and has been cited over 10,000 times in the mathematics literature. The OEIS is fortunate to have about 170 volunteer editors, of which approximately 40 are designated as editors in chief. They work diligently to deal with submissions of more than 500 potential new sequences and amendments each week, but the number of such submissions in the queue, awaiting review from the volunteer editors, continues to grow. In order to maintain the OEIS’s hard-earned reputation for rigorous peer review, and to oversee, support, and supervise the volunteer editors, it has become clear that a full-time managing editor needs to be recruited.

This person would probably have a Ph.D. in Mathematics and could be an academic or someone working at a tech firm. The OEIS cannot in good conscience advertise for and hire a person of this caliber unless it has funding in place to provide that person with employment security. Because OEIS does not now have any full-time employees, it currently has no benefit structure in place. To recruit and retain a top person, health insurance and other benefits would also be necessary. In looking at fundraising requirements, and because the OEIS believes that a package of approximately \$150,000 per year would be needed to attract an appropriate candidate, the OEIS believes that it needs an endowment of \$3 million to enable it to offer job security at a fair wage. Ideally, this gift could come from one or more individuals, foundations, or corporations, and could be paid in over a period of years.

The Board of Trustees of the OEIS Foundation, the non-profit that now owns and develops the OEIS, therefore resolved on January 15, 2023, to hire a full-time managing editor, and to endeavor to raise an endowment of \$3 million for this purpose. A committee of board members has been set up to help raise the necessary funds. For further information, please contact any of the committee members:

- Neil J. A. Sloane (Chairman), [njasloane@gmail.com](mailto:njasloane@gmail.com)
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