
MARCUS BARNES, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1S6

John Charles Fields as student, researcher, and scientific organizer

John Charles Fields (1863–1932) is best remembered today by mathematicians as the man after whom the Fields Medal is named. Few people realize the Canadian origin of what is arguably the most prestigious award in mathematics. In this talk, I will present a preliminary sketch of Fields' life and work. First we will discuss Fields as a student; then Fields as researcher; and finally, in many ways most importantly, Fields as a scientific organizer.