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ERC: WHY and HOW?

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I. Why Science?

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Henri Poincaré (1909)

- *The scientist does not study nature because it is useful; he studies it because he **delights in it**, and he delights in it because it is beautiful.*
- *Science has had marvelous applications, but a science that would only have applications in mind would not be science anymore, it would be only cookery.*

I. The primary goal

William P. Thurston (1994)

- *We mathematicians need to put far greater effort into **communicating mathematical ideas**. To accomplish this, we need to pay much more attention to communicating not just our definitions, theorems, and proofs, but also our ways of thinking. We need to appreciate the value of different ways of thinking about the same mathematical structure.*

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- *... the reliability does not primarily come from mathematicians formally checking formal arguments; it comes from mathematicians **thinking carefully and critically about mathematical ideas**.*
- *What we are producing is **human understanding**.*

I. Personal recognition and reputation?

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If it becomes irresistible, he must give up his scholarly work.

II. ERC: The goal?

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- Gill Wells (University of Oxford):
 - Individual fellowships – strategic tools for the University of Oxford.
 - Invest to those who are open.
 - Recruit and retain.

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Proclamations using the label "excellence" do not deliver, no matter on how loudly and frequently they are used.

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Considering ERC seriously is for any institution certainly rewarding **in a longer time period**. If we wish not to be disturbed and prefer the short sight, then there is no help.

Thank you for your valuable time.

We will greatly appreciate your help.