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Laura E. Turner* (lturner@ivs.au.dk). *Rhetorics of international communication and cooperation: Mittag-Leffler and Swedish mathematics, 1880-1920*. Preliminary report.

Acta Mathematica, founded by the Swedish mathematician Gösta Mittag-Leffler in 1882, is widely understood as the first “international” journal of mathematics with respect to both readers and contributors. However, it is recognized that the journal was intended to advance Scandinavian science on an international stage. Similarly, the sense in which many forms of scientific activity were “international” during this period was linked not only to rhetoric emphasizing the importance of cooperative efforts for scientific progress and mutual gain, but also to an awareness of a widespread “competition in civilization” in science, culture, and technology, seen, for instance, in the World’s Fairs. This talk investigates different aspects of the internationalist rhetoric Mittag-Leffler employed in founding *Acta Mathematica* and in establishing the Scandinavian Congress of Mathematicians. It also contrasts the versions of international activity cultivated by Mittag-Leffler with those promoted by some of his contemporaries, such as his Italian colleagues Giovan Battista Guccia and Giuseppe Peano, and promoted by organizational bodies such as the ICM and the IMU. (Received September 22, 2011)