To the editor of the AMS Notices:

I am declining the invitation to be an AMS Fellow, and I urge others to do the same. The many harmful effects of this type of program were well explained in the August 2006 Notices by AMS past president David Eisenbud, who wrote, "A Fellows program goes against one of the things that makes mathematics special and wonderful: its uniquely egalitarian culture."

Sincerely, Neal Koblitz University of Washington, Seattle koblitz@uw.edu