MATHEMATICA – A LIFETIME

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The journal *Mathematica* was founded in 1929 at the University of Cluj with the leading contribution of one of the most famous and large-hearted professors of this university, Petre Sergescu. The first editorial board consisted of G. Tzitzeica and D. Pompeiu, as editors-in-chief, N. Abramescu, A. Angelescu. Th. Angheluţă, G. Bratu, A. Davidoglu, D.V. Ionescu, O. Onicescu, C. Popovici, S. Sanielevici, S. Stoilow and V. Vâlcovici as editors, and P. Sergescu as scientific secretary. All of them were professors at the most important Romanian universities in Bucharest, Cluj, Iaşi, Timişoara and Cernăuţi. But the international character of the new journal was clearly stated in the first published paragraph:

> "MATHEMATICA est une nouvelle publication scientifique qui a pour but d'établir des relations entre l'activité mathématique de la Roumanie et celle des autres pays. Aussi les mémoires ou notes qu'elle contient seront écrits en une des langues suivantes: le français, l'anglais, l'allemand ou l'italien."

Since the first volume, its aim has been to attract high-level contributions of some of the most representative mathematicians of the moment, in all areas of the field. Thus the first paper published in *Mathematica* was one by P. Montel from the University of Paris. Many other important mathematicians from all over the world contributed with their works. We mention, in chronological order, some of them who published papers in the early years of *Mathematica*: M. Biernacki, P. Humbert, J. Karamata, S. Mandelbrojt, S. Saks, W. Sierpinski, E. Cartan, J. Favard, E. Picard, G. Valiron, O. Nikodym, C. Kuratowski, W. Wolibner, K. Borsuk, A. Denjoy, L. Godeaux, T. Wazewski, A. Zygmund, J. Dieudonné, M. Fréchet, H. Lebesgue, J. Hadamard, P. Szymanski, as well as the prestigious Romanian mathematicians A. Angelescu, G. Vrănceanu, Gh. Călugăreanu, Gr.C. Moisil, M. Nicolescu, O. Onicescu, D. Pompeiu, G. Tzitzeica, N. Abramescu, Th. Angheluţă, C. Popovici, S. Sanielevici, P. Sergescu, S. Stoilow, V. Vâlcovici, D.V. Ionescu, Gh. Pic, N. Teodorescu, T. Popoviciu, C. Iacob, G. Bratu. Among the strongest contributions we mention the paper of O. Nikodym from volume 5 (1931), related to one of the most important results in measure theory, known as the Radon-Nikodym theorem.

In spite of the Second World War, *Mathematica* continued to be published and to play an important part in preserving the interest in research and showing the friendship among mathematicians from all over the world. Such a

feeling was reflected in the following words of P. Szymanski, which preceded his paper from volume 19 (1943):

> "La Roumanie a généreusement accueilli les réfugiés polonais, j'ai éprouvé cette générosité d'une manière des plus touchantes. Dans l'ancienne cité universitaire de Cluj, dans les murs de son université célèbre, j'ai trouvé toutes les conditions favorables et tous les encouragements pour le travail scientifique."

The publication of the journal was interrupted in 1948. *Mathematica* has a new series since 1959, which has appeared under the auspices of the Romanian Academy, with a regular frequency of one volume a year. Several members of the Romanian Academy have participated in the editorial board since 1959: Gh. Călugăreanu, C. Corduneanu, R. Cristescu, L. Dragoş, M. Haimovici, C. Iacob, O. Mayer, Gh. Mihoc, Gr.C. Moisil, Al. Myller, M. Nicolescu, T. Popoviciu, N. Teodorescu.

The present editorial board has an international spectrum, among others including E. Grebenicov from the Russian Academy of Sciences, W. Jäger from the University of Heidelberg, S.S. Miller from the State University of New York at Brockport and S. Ruscheweyh from the University of Würzburg, as well as members of the Romanian Academy: M. Iosifescu, P.T. Mocanu and C. Năstăsescu. The journal has been reviewed by *Zentralblatt für Mathematik* since the first issue from 1929 and by *Mathematical Reviews* since 1940.

We believe that the anniversary 75th volume of *Mathematica* is a good opportunity to redraw the attention of the mathematical world to one of the oldest and most prestigious journals in Romania and Eastern Europe. Thus we address an open call for papers which may continue the high-level results and the longstanding valuable tradition of our journal.

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