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The following colleagues have changed their affiliation/address or they have recently left Romania, and we do not presently have their exact coordinates:

USA: M. Breban, Josefina Bondoc, Carina Parvulescu, Alexandru Stanculescu, Mark Sturza, Deonisie Trifan, Sandu Crivineanu, Mircea Ghitá, Dan Constantin Radulescu
Belgium: Radu Badesco
Canada: Stefan Olariu
France: Carmen Ieşan-Maftei
Germany: Stefan Sandor, Christina Hartopeanu-Dobranis
Israel: Enric Goldgahen, Andrei Ney

An ever growing number of young Romanian mathematicians are attending Graduate School in U.S. universities, their status being that of a foreign student. The same fact is true for European universities, where many Romanian students are attending Graduate School and sometimes even undergraduate classes.

A N N O U N C E M E N T

The XXIIIrd Annual Congress of the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences will be held at the University of Rochester,in Rochester,New York.This is an ideal location for colleagues living in Canada (Quebec and Ontario),and it is ceratinly more convenient than in preceding years for our colleagues from Romania and Europe.

ARA members as well as any person interested in the life of ARA and its activities are cordially invited to participate.There will be sessions dedicated to all fields of knowledge.

The date for the Annual ARA Congress 1998 is

August 6 - 9.

The sessions of the Congress will take place in the Conference Center of the University of Rochester.The cost per person and day will be in the range $ 40 - 45 for housing and meals.If hotel or motel is preffered to the university housing,the cost will be higher.

The local person is Professor Charles CARLTON ,and Mrs. Sarah C. Williams is the Assistant Director of the Conference & Events Office at the University of Rochester (152 Administration Building).The FAX Number for Mrs. Williams is (715) 275 4111.

The persons interested to participate and present a paper in the Mathematics Session,are kindly asked to send a copy of the abstract before March 1st,1998,to:

Prof.C.Corduneanu
Box 19408 UTA
ARLINGTON , TX 76019

Please contact Prof.C.Corduneanu,ARA President,at the above address,or FAX (817) 272 5802,if you have any question related to the Congress.

AMERICAN ROMANIAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

B Y L A W S

Preamble

This institution shall be known as the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Science,duly incorporated in the State of California as a non-profit tax-exempt organization.It is organized in conformity with the pertinent laws and regulations of the state wherein it is incorporated and the United States of America.

I. Purpose and the Character of the Academy

Art.1 . The American Romanian Academy of Arts and Science (hencefort denominated as ARA or the Academy) is a scholarly institution dedicated to the analysis,study and dissemination of Romanian contributions and accomplishments.To enhance these efforts ARA combines Western and Romanian intellectual traditions,encourages communication and exchanges between Western and Romanian individuals and institutions and serves as a point d'apui in the Western World for Romanian academics and intellectuals.

a. ARA is an institution organizedand operated exclusively for scientific,literary and educational purposes,no part of the net earnings of which benefits any private shareholder or individual. No part of its activities is carrying on propaganda,attempting to influence legislation,participating in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office or engaging in any other practice which would disqualify its exemption from taxation as defined in 26 USCS 501(c)3.

b. ARA is a democratic institution pursuing its goals be free discussion among its members and electing its officers by secret ballot.ARA only cooperates with other institutions which operate with similar transparency and aspire to similar goals.ARA,nevertheless,is not a political institution and does not as much endorse other organizations.

c. Officers and members are encouraged to engage in political activities and assume political positions as their individual consciences dictate,but no officer or member may engage in political activities or assume political positions using or invoking the name of the Academy in any way whatsoever.

Art. 2 . In order to achieve its goals,ARA is determined to preserve its independence and will not be subordinate to other institutions.This does not prescribe ARA from cooperating with and assisting other institutions which share the goals and attitudes enumerated in Art. 1 .

Art. 3 .The President is the official representative of ARA de facto and de jure,within the powers and restrictions established by these Bylaws.

II.The Members,their Categories,Admission Procedures and Cassation of Membership.

Art. 4 .The membership of ARA will consist of:
a. members,
b. corresponding members.
c. honorary members and emeriti members,
d. benefactors.

Art. 5 . Members are elected according to the following criteria:
a.Individuals whose activity in the field of their specialization, supported by publications or exhibitions,is recognized by their respective academic or intellectual circles,and who have expressed their concern for promoting Romania academic and intellectual life under democratic conditions and free from political pressurees.
b.Any member of ARA may recommend to the President in writing with supporting documentation the admission of a new member.The President will consult with a member in a field close to the specialized field of the candidate.
c.If the results of the consulation are favorable,an officer designated by the Secretary General shall inform the members of the Academy in writing,with whatever supporting documentation is necessary to enable the members to make an informed decision concerning the academic or intellectual activities of the candidate.This communication will describe the candidate's status in his or her country of residence to establish if the candidate is in a position to undertake lasting membership in the Academy,in the democratic,free spirit stipulated in Art. 1 .
d.the candidate is elected to membership with a tw--thirds vote of the members voting by mail,provided that the total number of ballots cast is equal to a majority of the total number of voting members of the Academy.

Art. 6 . Corresponding Members
Qualified persons from Romania and the Republic of Moldova may be elected correponding members.The admission of corresponding members follows the procedure described in Art. 5 .

Art. 7 . Honorary Members,Emeriti Members
On the nomination of the President and with approval of the Executive Committee,persons who have rendered signal services to the Academy or contributed substantially to the realization of Academy's goals may be appointed Honorary Members.Honorary Members are exempt from the annual fee.ARA members who have been active for at least five years will become Emeriti Members when they reach the age of 65

and are retired.Annual fees are voluntary for Emeriti Members.

Art. 8 . Benefactors

On the nomination of the President and with the approval of the Executive Committee,persons who have offered the Academy substantial support may be appointed benefactors of ARA.Benefactors may also hold another category of membership for which they are qualified and have been duly elected or appointed.

Art. 9 . Loss of membership will ensue when:

a. a member departs from the stipulations of the article which his or her membership.In this case,thePresident will notify the Executive Committee of his departure and remand the matter to the Grievance Committee for investigation and decision which will be communicated in a report to the President.

b. a member resigns in a written communication addressed to the President,the resignation to become effective with the written acknowledgement of same by the President,who will enter the resignation and its acknowledgement in the minutes of the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

c.a member does not pay the annual fee for two consecutive years and the Treasurer has informed the member that automatic forfeiture will ensue.The Treasurer will enter this dereliction and the ensuing correspondence in the minutes of next meeting of the Executive Committee.

d. a member engages in activities inimical to the interests of the Academy.In this case,an officer of ARA will address a written report to both the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, and a majority vote is required by both bodies to expel the member.

e. The provisions of this article apply without deviation to all officers and members in positions of trust within the Academy.If complaint is brought against such individuals,they may provide evidence and testimony in any investigation concerning the complaint but they are remanded from membership in any body or committee discussing the complaint.

III. Governing Bodies

Art. 10 . General Assembly

a.A meeting of the General Assembly will occur at the time of the annual Congress or more often if called into extraordinary session by the President.The Presidents summons the General Assembly by a circular letter addressed to all members at least one month before the meeting date.An agenda of the meeting will be included with the summons. All members of the Academy are encouraged to attend the General Assemblies and particiapte in the discussions,but decisions will be made by a majority vote of those members defined by Art. 5 of the Bylaws.

b. A General Assembly is duly constituted and a quorum is reached if at least half of the members in good standing as defined by Arti- 5 and 9 are present in person or represented by written proxy.A written proxy must be sent to the General Secretary two weeks before a scheduled meeting of the General Assembly.If a General Assembly cannot be held for lack of a quorum,with the previous approval of the Executive Committee,the President may requaest by mail a response to the agenda items from the voting members.The results of this response will be communicated to all members and inserted in the next ARA Newsletter.

c. The General Assembly deliberates on the issues facing the Academy at that time,discusses and approves the annual report of the President,the minutes of the previous meeting as prepared by the Secretary General and the Treasure's report including the annual balance sheet of income and expenditures,elects officers and committee members as appropriate and decides on the site of the next Congress and General Assembly.

Art. 11 . The permanent committees of ARA are:the Executive Committee,the Board of Directors,the Nominating Committee and the Grie - vance Committee.

Art. 12 . The Executive Committee with its officers represents the Academy between meetings of the General Assembly and is composed of seven members:the President,Vice-President,General Secretary,Treasurer and three Counselors.

a.The Executive Committee takes decisions in any matter requiring Academy action between meetings of the General Assembly.The Executive Committee is summoned whenever the President judges necessary, sends summons to include an agenda for the meeting.Those members unable to attend may vote on the agenda by mail,but the President may determine that an emergency existsand may then consult members of the committee by whatever means.All decisions of the Executive Committee as well as the voting procedure will be noted in the minutes of the meeting,voted on at the following meeting and published in the next issue of ARA Newsletter.

b.The President represents ARA,presides over the Congresses and the General Assemblies,approves the programs of the Congresses in consultation with the local organizing committee,supervises the procedures of the election of members,approves all expenditures beyond the routine current expenses,summons the General Assemblies annually,informs the membership through the ARA Newsletter concerning the Academy's congresses,publications,membership,and the decisions of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.A past President of the Academy may be honored with the title President Emeritus if so nominated in writing by ten or more voting members of the Academy and by a majority vote in the General Assembly.

c.The Vice-President substitutes for the President when necessary and assists the President especially in problems related to the organization and the administration of the annual congresses.

d.The General Secretary assists the President in the general administration of the Academy,keeps the minutes of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee,carries out such other tasks asmay be assigned by the President.

e.The Treasurer administers the assets of the Academy,under the supervision of the President makes such expenditures as are required by the activities of the Academy,presents a report with balance sheet for the approval of the Executive Committee at each of its meetings and an annual report with balance sheet at the General Assembly for its approval.

f.The three Counselors are assigned tasks by the President in accordance with the needs of the Academy.

Art. 13 . The Board of Directors

a.A Board of Directors consisting of 6 voting members of ARA not currently holding other office or committee membership will be elected by the General Assembly.

b.Criteria for election to this board include the following:a distinguished record of academic or intellectual achievement in their chosen fields,five years of ARA membership,and previous service as an officer or member of a permanent ARA committee.Past and serving ARA Presidents are ex officio,supernumerary voting members of this board,which will elect a President from among its elected members.

c.The Board of Directors decides on ARA's long term policies and directions.At the request of editors of ARA publications,within their area of competence members of the Board of Directors report on works submitted for publication and provide policy guidance for the publications editors.They also assist when required the local organizing committees for the annual congresses in evaluating proposal for papers.

Art. 14 . The Nominating Committee will consist of three members elected by the General Assembly.The members of the committee will elect a Chairperson from among themselves.The Committee will inform all ARA voting members through the ARA Newsletter of the deadline for submitting nominations in accordance with Art. 16 .

Art. 15 . The Grievance Committee

a. A Grievance Committee will be composed of three members elected by the General Assembly for three years terms.Members may not simultaneously serve on other permanent ARA committees.The President of the Grievance Committee will be its eldest member,but the eldest member may pass this office to another member by agreement among the three members.

b.Any member of ARA may address to the ARA President a written complaint with regard to:violations of the Bylaws,activities inimical to the aims of the Academy,financial irregularities.This complaint,with a full,accurate and documented presentation of the facts must be signed by the complainant and notarized by a notary public. The complaint will be traeted as a confidential document.

c.The President will expeditiously submit the complaint with its documentation to the Grievance Committee for its investigation. A determination of the facts should be forthcoming from the Grievance Committee not more than 60 days from the ARA President's submission. If the Committee requires an extension,the ARA President may grant such an extension not to exceed 30 days.The determination of the Grievance Committee shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for its decision as to ARA's appropriate action.This decision will be communicated to the complainant by registered letter signed by the Academy's President.The complainant retains the right of appeal to the next meeting of the Ceneral Assembly.

Art. 15 (bis).All officers and members of the permanent committees herein discussed will be eligible to serve two consecutive terms of three years.At the conclusion of the six year period they are ineligible to return to the same office or membership before six additional years have passed.The terms of the President,Vice-President and General Secretary will be staggered in such a way that only one is elected each year.The full terms of the Treasurer and the three Counselors of the Executive Committee will be similarly staggered with no more than two being elected each year.Likewise two members of the Board of Directorsand one member each of the Grievance and Nominating Committees will be elected for a full term each year.

IV. Nominations and Elections

Art. 16 .Any three voting members of ARA may nominateany qualified member of ARA for any office,committee or board herein discussed. This nomination signed by the three members must reach the General Secretary at least a month before the annual meeting of the General Assembly.

1.The General Secretary will determine that the nomination conforms to the Bylaws and that the member nominated has been consulted and will serve in the nominated capacity if elected.

2.The General Secretary will prepare a sufficient number of ballots containing the names of all persons nominated.Voting shall take place by secret ballot at the General Assembly by all full members present voting for themselves and for any proxy with which they have been entrusted.If quorum of the General Assembly is not present,the General Secretary will send the ballots to all voting members by mail.

V. Activities of the Academy

Art. 17 .As an institution whose responasabilities include promoting Romania studies,the Academy intends to introduce and stimulate knowledge of the cultural values of the Romania nationin international circles,by encouraging research into various areas of the Arts,Humanities and Sciences.Within a con-emporary ,democratic framework,ARA will underatke appropriate efforts to examine Romania's past and present,as well as Romania's intellectual and academic accomplishments,achieved within Romania and throughout the world.

Art. 18 .The Activities of ARA include congresses,publications,exhibits and festivals.

a.Congresses are annual gatherings of a high academic standard in which all members as well as other persons interested in Romania's culture may participate and present papers.Papers for Congresses will be selected on the basis of abstracts submitted by a stipulated date following the approval of the President,in consultation with the Executive Committee and the local organizing committee.

b.ARA publications will consists of : books,periodicals and bulletins.The editorial practices of all ARA publications will conform to those followed by scholarly societies in the United States.Responsabilities for editing ARA publications will be assigned to an appropriate person by the Board of Directors.

c.Exhibits are generally organized to coincide with the annual congresses but may also occur separately by decision of the Executive Committee.

d.Festivals are designed to promote and encourage awareness of Romania's contributions to the performing arts.They are generally organized to coincide with the annual congresses but may also occur separately by decision of the Executive Committee.

e.The ARA Research Institute provides specialized assistance to Academy members in the preparation of such activities as are described in this Article.The Board of Directors approves the program of the Research Institute.

VI. Financial Matters

Art. 19 . The financial resources of the Academy are:

a. the annual fees of the members as established by the General Assembly;

b. donations and grants made by individuals,foundations or private corporations.Acceptance thereof is subject to the decision of the Executive Committee.

Art. 20 . When deemed necessary,the General Assembly will elect for terms of three years a Fund-Raising Committee composed of between five and seven members and representatives of private institutions to assist in the publication of ARA books and periodicals.This com-

mittee will work under the general supervision of the ARA President. The funds raised by this committee are exclusively for meeting the costs of ARA's publication program;although such funds are part of the assets of the Academy,they may not be commingled with any other funds or assets.

VII. Amendment of the Bylaws

Art. 21 .Any amendment of the Bylaws falls within jurisdiction of the General Assembly.The Assembly may only amend the Bylaws by a majority vote of two-thirds of the total voting members present or voting by proxy.The text of all proposed amendments must be included with the letter of convocation and the meeting agenda sent by the President to all members,30 days before the date set for the General Assembly.This communication will also include a staement by the President,confirming that the proposed amendment has been read and approved for vote by the Executive Committee.

a.If the number of voting members present in person or by proxy at the meeting of the General Assembly does not equal the mandatory two-thirds of the voting members required by this article, the General Secretary will mail the proposed amendment to all voting members and request their vote by return mail.

VIII. Provisions for Dissolution

Art. 22 .In the event that the purposes of the Academy can no longer be achieved,ARA can be dissolved by the vote of at least two-thirds of the current members of the Executive Committee and approved at a special meeting of the General Assembly by a vote of at least two-thirds of all voting members present in person or by proxy.In case of dissolution the entire assets of the Academy shall be transferred to the "Hoover Institution for War,Revolution and Peace" of Palo Alto,California,which has already provided for other important Romanian documents.

Art. 23 .The English version of these Bylaws is the only authentic and juridically valid version.

Art. 24 .The present Bylaws replace the Academy Bylaws of February 1983.

Note (by the President).By mail vote in September 1997,the General Assembly of the Academy has approved the amendment providing for the new category of Emeriti Members (Art. 4 and 7).

THE XXI-st CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN ROMANIAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES-1996

The XXI-st Annual Congress of the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences has been hosted by the University of Victoria,in Victoria,B.C.,Canada,from Sepember 26-29,1996.The chairman of the local organizing committee was Professor Florin Diacu from the University of Victoria.The Congress has been attended by more than 70 participants from the United States,Canada,Mexico,Germany,Romania and Moldova.More than 60 papers have been presented at the Congress in a variety of fields:Mathematics,Physics,Chemistry,Economics,Engineering,Computer Sciences,Political Sciences,Philosophy,Literature and Arts.An encouraging feature of the particiaption was the relatively large number of participants coming from Romania and Moldova (over 20).

The opening session of the Congress was scheduled on September 26,from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon in the Arbutus-Queenswwod Room of the Conference Center of the University of Victoria.The participants have been welcome by the President of ARA,Prof.Constantin Corduneanu and by the Chair of the local organizing committee Professor Florin Diacu.From the part of the University of Victoria a warm welcome has been pronounced by the Chancellor,Professor David Strong.

The British Columbia Television and reporters from various publications have been present during the meeting.

Several messages have been received and have been read at the opening session:from Prof. Emil Constantinescu,the Prrsident of the Democratic Convention of Romania;from Academician Virgiliu N.Constantinescu,the President of the Romanian Academy;from Academician Solomon Marcus.

Besides the regular session of the Congress,there have been two special sessions dedicated to the late President of ARA Nicholas Timiras (in Memoriam) and to Ion Manea Manoliu - a former counselor and member of the ARA executive committee.Also,two other memorial sessions have been dedicated to Nicholas Georgescu Roegen who passed away in 1994 and to Sergiu Celibidache.

During the Congress,a recital has been offered by Professor Mihai Craioveanu from Hope College in Pennsylvania and the young and gifted piano player Gabriela Meyer (a native of Timişoara).Music by Romanian composers has been performed.

As usual,sessions dedicated to Mathematics and Computer Science have been scheduled and this year the number of participants has been higher than in precedent meetings.The following participants have presented papers in these fields.

Carmen Vlad,from Pce University in New York,has spoken about "Special properties of zero one-valued measures".

Fabian Todor,from the Universite de Montreal,has presented the paper "Sur un crice d'optimalite pour l'estimation de la probabilite dans des medeles du risque".

Viorel Vlad,from IBM/ISSC Corporation of New York,has presented the paper "Tunning named data caches in sybase-SQL Server 11 for very large data base".

Petre Osmatescu,from the Technical University of Moldova in Chisinau,has presented the paper "Spatii subtile cu structuri topologice".

Costin Ifrim,with Sierra Wireless,Richmond,B.C.,has presented the paper "Boundary element techniques applied to non-linear 2-dimensional diffusion problems".

Nicolae H. Pavel,from the Ohio University in Athens,Ohio,has presented the paper "Periodic solutions of the wave equation in the resonant case".

Emil Cornea (jointly with Bjorn Jawerth),from University of South Carolina,Columbia,S.C.,has presented the paper "Pointwise multiplication and wavelets".

Constantin Corduneanu,from the University of Texas at Arlington, has presented the paper "Tecahing second order linear differential equations".

Dan Ionescu,from the University of Ottawa,has presented the paper "A multi-sorted algebra framework for the analysis and synthesis of discrete event systems".

Vasile Mioc,from the Astronomic Observatory of the Romanian Academy in Cluj-Napoca,has spoken about "The Manev two-body problem".

Florin Diacu,from the University of Victoria,Victoria,B.C.,has presented the paper "The anysotropic Manev problem".

Sorin Pop,from University of Victoria,Victoria,B.C., has presented the paper "Machining process model for intelligent rough machining of sculptured parts".

Haret Roşu,from the Instituto de Fisica de la Universidad of Guanajuato,Mexico,presented the paper "Some applications of the Quantum Mechanics methods in supersymmetry".

Cristina Mandravel,from the University of Bucharest,Romania,has presented the paper "Physical-Chemical study concerning deferrization and demanganisation of ground waters" (jointly with V.Chiosa, Mariana Stanciulescu and Adina Raducanu).

Note.The papers presented in these fields will be published by the authors as they deem adequate.Libertas Mathematica has inserted various contributions due to some of the above mentioned authors in preceding volumes.

FLORIN VASILESCU (1897 - 1958)

Florin Vasilescu was born in Calarași - a small town on the Danube, in Southeastern Romania, on April 15,1897. His father was a high-school teacher of Romanian and paid special attention to his sons education. All his three sons have been college professors (in Romania, France, Germany and the United States of America).

In the Fall of 1915, Florin Vasilescu became a student at the Bucharest University, and three years later, while mobilized in the Romanian Army because of the First World War, he graduated from the University of Iași. For a short period after his graduation, he was an Assistant with the University of Iași, being associated with Professor Vera Myller-Lebedev - a former student of David Hilbert in Goettingen. In 1919 he is in France as a student at Sorbonne. He also obtained the "Licence" from this school. A fellowship awarded to him while in Paris allows him to go to Germany and take courses at several German universities. He spent also a short period of time in Switzerland, where he got an interest in Euler and his work.

Returned to France after the Geramn experience, Florin Vasilescu has asked Henri Lebesgue for advice and thus becomes involved in the field of Real Analysis. On May 28,1925, he defended his thesis "Sur les fonctions multiformes de variables reelles" with the commitee consisting of Edouard Goursat (Chairman), Paul Montel and Jean Chazy. In his thesis, Florin Vasilescu has applied Baire's classification to the case of multi-valued funtions and obtained results that have been quoted by Lebesgue and Lusin.

The academic year 1925/26 is spent by Florin Vasilescu at the University of Bucharest, as an Assistant with the Faculty of Science. Another fellowship he obtained allows him to return to Paris, where he is in close contact with Lebesgue. He spent the whole year 1927 in Paris, and in 1928 he is consuming the last part of the fellowship at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. At Harvard, Florin Vasilescu and O.D.Kellogg became friends and they have collaborated on some research projects, publishing jointly several papers on the capacity of sets. From Harvard he continus his American journey to Rice University in Houston, Texas. In Houston, Florin Vasilescu is hired by E.O.Lovitt to teach a graduate course on Higher Analysis. He remains one more year at Rice University, having the position of "Lecturer in Mathematics". During the academic year 1929/30 he is teaching course on Lebesgue's Integral and the "Generalized Dirichlet Problem".

In the Fall of 1930 Florin Vasilescu is back in Romania, and due to his achievements is appointed a Professor (Full) at the University of Cernauti. One year later he leaves Romania and establishes his residence in France. His wife was French and they decided to spend the rest of their life in that country. In 1932, Florin Vasi-

lescu obtains the French citizenship,and for the remaining 26 years of his life he is active in research and teaching.During the 2nd World War,Florin Vasilescu is called in the French Army,and for a while he participates in research with the team headed by Borel.He has also seved as a combatant soldier.He is successively holding positions with the Fluid Dynamics Institute at Sorbonne (under the guidance of Henri Villat),at the Ministere de l"air,at the Maison Nationale des Sciences,at the Universities of Montpellier,Lille, Rennes,at the National School of Nantes.He has conducted research and taught course,particularly in the field of Fluid Mechanics.He has published valuable results in Potential Theory,and Georges Bouligand nicknamed Vasilescu "le roi du potentiel".

Florin Vasilescu has published more than 60 papers in various mathematical journals,including two monographs dedicated to the concepts of "Capacity" and "irregular point" in Dirichlet problem. Most of his publications have appeared in the Comptes Rendus de l'Academie des Sciences de Paris.But other prestigious publications have inserted papers authored by Florin Vasilescu.We will mention here Bulletin des Sciences Mathematiques,Annales Scientifiques de l'Ecole Normale Superieure de Paris,American Journal of Mathematics, Journal de Mathematiques Pures et Appliquees,Acta Litterarum ac Scientiarum regiae Universitatis Francisco-Josephinae,Acta Mathematica (Stockholm).

The following publications of Florin Vasilescu,the result of request from Paul Montel and of his duties with the Ministere de l'Air are particularly significant:

1.Sur le calcul du potentiel des vitesses en Hydrodynamique; Publications Scientifiques et Techniques du Ministere de l'Air, fasc. 29,Gauthier-Villars,Paris,1933.

2.La notion de capacite;Actualites Scientifiques et Industrielles,Herman & Co.,Paris,1937.

3.La notion de point irregulier dans le probleme de Dirichlet; Ibidem,No. 660, 1938.

In October 1957,just one year before his premature death,Prof. Georges Bouligand from the University of Paris has advanced the proposal for the appointment of Florin Vasilescu at a chair in Mechanics (Research) with the Sorbonne.This flattering but deserved proposal has remained without object due to his passing away on October 15,1958.

Note.The Editor is expressing thanks to Prof.Nicolae Dinculeanu from the University of Florida,Gainesville,for providing the information about Florin Vasilescu,contained in this article.

FROM THE BOOKSHELVES

SILVIU SBURLAN: Topological and Functional Methods for Partial Differential Equations.Survey Series in Mathematics,Analysis I,Press of the "Ovidius" University of Constantza,1995,135 pp.

This book is presenting in a concise and rigorous manner the basic methods of nonlinear analysis,with special regard to PDE.It is intended as an introductory text for graduate students and the author has taught partially these topics to students at the University "Ovidius" of Constantza and at the University of Granada in Spain.The reading assumes some acquaintance with the basic principles of Nonlinear Analysis but the topics are presented with enough preparation.

The following Chapters constitute this book: I.Background in Functional Analysis (degree theory,distributions and Sobolev spaces,vector-valued functions and distributions);II.Weak solutions for elliptic problems (linear elliptic problems,quasi-linear elliptic BV problems,other problems - eigenvalues,Hammerstein equations); III.Generalized solutions for parabolic and hyperbolic problems(fundamental solutions,mixed BV problems for linear parabolic equations, mixed BVP for linear hyperbolic equations);IV.The abstract Cauchy problem (Yosida approximations and resolvent,evolution equations in Hilbert spaces,semi-linear problems).

The book is of real help for persons interested in the modern theory of Partial Differential Equations.

VASILE ENE:Real Functions - Current Topics.Lecture Notes in Mathematics # 1603,Springer Verlag,Berlin,1995,XI + 310 pp.

This book is a monograph dedicated to rather specialized problems of the Theory of Functions of a Real Variable,and is partly based on the personal research work of the author.More than 20 articles of the author,with a few authored by his wife Gabriela Ene or jointly,are included in the list of references,which contains about 170 items.The following Chapters are present:1.Preliminaries (mostly classical results like Baire category,Vitali's covering theorem,ectreme derivatives);2.Classes of Functions.(almost 40 are defined and described,with basic properties);3 Finite Representations for Continuous Functions (quasi-derivability,wrinkled functions);4.Monotonicity (local monotonicity,relative monotonicity,monotonicity in terms of extreme derivatives);5.Integrals (a conspicuous Ch. which contains definitions and properties of all basic types of integrals - Riemann.Lebesgue,Denjoy, Perron,Kurzweil-Henstock -equivalencies,exotic ones like Iseki's integral or Foran integral);6.Examples (a myriad of examples are collected,usually going deeper in the problems discussed in preceding chapters of the book).

This book is recommended to a rather narrow circle of readers, with deep knowledge of special topics in Real Analysis.The presentation is clear but very concise.

ALEKSY TRALLE and JOHN OPREA:Symplectic Manifolds with no Kahler structure.Lecture Notes in Mathematics # 1661,Springer Verlag,Berlin,1997,VIII + 207 pp.

The book is dedicated to the study and construction of symplectic manifolds with no Kahlerian structure.First,a collection of basic results is presented.Homotopy theory,particularly rational homotopy theory due to Dolbeault.Thurston's conjecture,Sullivan's problem,Benson-Gordon conjecture and other relevant features are illustrated in this book.From the introduction: "Our explicit aim is to clarify the interrelation between certain aspects of symplectic geometry and homotopy theory".The Contents:Ch.1.The Startin Point:Homotopy Theory of Kahler Manifolds;Ch.2.Nilmanifolds (The Benson-Gordon-Hasegawa Theorem). Ch.3.Solvmanifolds(among the topics,Cohomology of Solvamnifolds;Hattori's Theorem).Ch.4.The Examples of McDuff.Ch.5.Symplectic Structures in Total Spaces of Bundles.Ch.6.Survey (Brylinski's Conjecture, The Original Arnold' Conjecture,Dolbeault Homotopy Theory).This book is of interest to specialists in the Theory of Manifolds,with particular emphasis on Symplectic Manifolds.

SILVIU SBURLAN:Equations of Mathematical Physics (Romanian).The University "Ovidius" of Constantza Press,1994,133 pp.

This book represents a very concise presentation of the basic facts related to the theory of second order partial differential equations encountered in Mathematical Physics.It is addressed primarily to undergarduate students in Science and Engineering.The Contents:Ch.1. Cauchy's Problem for First Order Partial Differential Equations(the presentation includes Hamilton-Jacobi systems,Eikonal Equations and many exercises);Ch.2.Cauchy's Problem for Higher Order Equations (generalities about higher order equations,existence,uniqueness and Holmgren's Theorem);Ch.3.Second Order Linear Partial Differential Equations);Ch.4.Well-Posed Problems (Heat equation,Maximum Principle,Initial value problems for hyperbolic equations,Huygens Principle,Comments and Exercises).

VASILE BRINZANESCU:Holomorphic Vector Bundles over Compact Complex Surfaces.Lecture Notes in Mathematics # 1624,Springer Verlag,Berlin, 1996,X + 170 pp.

The basic problems discussed in this monograph are the existence and the classification of holomorphic vector bundles over compact complex surfaces.While still under development,these topics have been addressed by many researchers during the last 20 years,and significant progress has been made.The author is intended to bring to the readers' attention ,with particular cocern for the case of nonalgebraic surfaces (which constitutes a distinct feature with respect to existing books on these topics).The Contents:Ch.1.Vector bundles over complex manifolds (Chern classes,GAGA theorems,torsion-free and reflexive coherent sheaves);Ch.2.Facts on compact complex

surfaces(algebraic dimension and Kodaira dimension,classification, Neron-Severi group);Ch.3.Line bundles over surfaces.Ch.4.Existence of holomorphic vector bundles (Serre construction,filtarble vector bundles,non-filtarble and irreducible vector bundles);Ch.5.Classification of vector bundles (deformations of vector bundles,moduli spaces,stable vector bundles,vector bundles over ruled surfaces).A reference list with about 170 entries and an Index are concluding this interesting volume.

FLORENTIN SMARANDACHE:Emigrant la Infinit (Romanian)."Macarie" Press, Targoviste (Romania),1996,120 pp.

This is avolume whose title could be translated as "Immigrant up to Infinity" or "The Eternal Immigrant".It contains poetry written by the author during the last 7-8 years (over 70 poems) in Romanian. It is known that Florentin Smarandache has published several volumes of Poetry,Drama and other literary pieces.This is a parallel activity to his mathematical activities.Recently,he has passed his Doctorate in Mathematics at the Stae University of Moldova,Chisinau,the Republic of Moldova,with a thesis in Number Theory.Despite his constant preoccupations in Mathematics (he has taught Mathematics at various levels in Romania,Morocco and the United States for more than 20 years),Florentin Smarandache remains very active in the literary field.We wish him great success!

CIPRIAN FOIAS,HITAY OZBAY and ALLEN R.TANNENBAUM:Robust Control of Infinite Dimensional Systems;Frequency Domain Models.Lecture Notes in Control and Information Science,Springer-Verlag,Berlin,1996,VI + 218 pp.

This book is dedicated to the theory of robust control problems for linear,time-invariant systems of infinite dimension.The most frequent realization of this type of control systems is usually based on models with Partial Differential Equations or various classes of Functional Differential Equations (such as delay equations).It is worthwile pointing out that many systems occuring in applications are infinite-dimensional.In order to facilitate the reader's work,the authors are providing the necessary mathematical tools,they discuss various aspects of feedback control,they elaborate on such topics as H^{∞}-control theory,optimal or suboptimal solutions,multiple input - multuple-output systems,skew Toeplitz theory,frequency domain control,robust stabilization,sensitivity minimization,disturbance attenuation.The concept of a transfer function is introduced in the case of linear,time-invariant systems of infinite dimension,these being matrices whose entries are transcendental functions of a complex variable.This allows asystematic treatment of many problems encountered in linear systems theory.Another issue featured in the book is the operator-theoretic approach in treating H^{∞} - control problems.

The books constitute a very valuable contribution to the theory of robust control in infinite-dimensional linear systems and it is highly recommended to specialists in this area and to graduate students specializing in Control Theory.The reading does require some familiarity with Systems Theory,and reasonable knowledge of Real and Complex Analysis.

OCTOGON MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE,vol.5,No.1 (April 1997).Executive Editor Mihaly Bencze,Braşov-Romania.

This is a periodical published twice a year (April and October), mainly due to the sacrifice and enthusiasm of the editor and a few of his friends.We have reported on this publication in previous volumes of Libertas Mathematica.

This particular issue of OCTOGON is dedicated to the memory of the well known leader in Number Theory,Pal Erdos,who graciously accepted several years ago to be one of the Associate Editors of this publication.

The volume includes 21 contributions,authored by mathematicians from Romania and India,dealing with topics ranging from elementary problems in Geometry to rather sophisticated problems on inequalities (discrete or integral) and Differential Equations.The editor starts the volume with the article "Pal Erdos An Eccentric Titan and the Mozart of Mathematics".Then,the editor jointly with Florin Popovici are authoring the article "A New and Simple Proof of the Change of Variable Formula in the Riemann Integral".B.G.Pachpatte is the author of three notes,one of which is entitled "On an Inequality Related to the Zeros of Solutions of Certain Second Order Differential Equations".Other authors are:Jozsef Sandor,Alexandru Lupaş , Bela Finta,Mihaela Negrea,W.B.Vasantha Kandasamy,Dan Barbosu,Costel Cioclu,Florentin Smarandache,Szilard Andras,Karoly Dane.Besides the articles inserted in the issue,there are many proposed problems in various areas of mathematics,open problems are stated and information interesting mathematical readers.Besides mathematicians from Romania who are ethnic Hungarians,we also notice the presence of contributors from Hungary.

P E R S O N A L I A

FLORENTIN SMARANDACHE has passed his Doctorate in Mathematics at the State University of Moldova,Chisinau,Republic of Moldova (June 1997). He has won a competition to become a tenure track Assistant Professor at the University of New Mexico in Gallup,N.M.,starting September 1st , 1997.A conference,with international participation has taken place at the University of Craiova,Romania,dedicated to the concept of "Smarandache Function".This function has been defined as follows:If n is a positive integer,then S(n) = m is the smallest integer with the property that n divides m!.
Dr. Smarandache has also continued his literary activity (see the section "From the Bookshelves" in this volume).

CONSTANTIN CORDUNEANU,with the University of Texas at Arlington,has spent five weeks in Romania during the months of May and June,participating at the following meetings: 1) The International Conference "Romania and the Romanians in the Contemporary Science",held at Braşov from May 27th to May 31st; 2) The Annual Session of the Romanian Mathematical Society,held in Bucharest,from May 31st to June 2nd.He has presented an invited lecture on the subject "Recent Contributions to the Theory of Functional Differential Equations with Abstract Volterra Operators"; 3) The XXII-nd Annual Congress of the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences,held at the "Valachia" University in Targoviste.

RADU THEODORESCU,with the University of Laval,Canada,has visited Romania and other European countries during the Summer,1997.He participated at the Braşov conference "Romania and the Romanians in the Contemporary Science" and visited the University of Bucharest (his Alma Mater) where he met his former colleagues and lectured on topics of current interest.

NICOLAE DINCULEANU,with the University of Florida in Gaunesville, has spent two months in Paris during the Summer 1997,lecturing on his current research work.

NICOLAE CRISTESCU,with the University of Florida in Gainesville,FL, has been awarded the Nadai Prize of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for the year 1995.This award was given for his contributions to the mathematical modeling of viscoplastic properties of materials such as metals,soil and rocks.Professor Nicolae Cristescu has published several authoritative books on Plasticity and Rheology (Dynamics Plasticity,Viscoplasticity and Rheology of Rocks) and is on the editorial boards of several periodicals in the domain of Modern Mechanics.He belongs to a large number of Scientific Societies in Romania (including the Romanian Academy),Europe and the United States.After several visiting positions in the United States,

including Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore,MD,Nicolae Cristescu has been appointed on a permanent position at the University of Florida in 1992.He continues his research and teaching activities with enthusiasm,presently being one of the main organizer of a National Congress of Mechanics.

IRINEL DRAGAN,with the University of Texas at Arlington,has traveled to Europe during the Summer 1997.He has lectured at the University of Liege in Belgium and attended two meetings in Romania:the Annual Session of the Mathematical Society of Romania (Bucharest),where he delivered an invited lecture,and the International Conference in Brasov ("Romania and the Romanians in Contemporary Science").He has also particiapted in several meetings on Operation Research in the United States,at the State University of New York at Stony Brook,N.Y.,and at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

DAN BUTNARIU,with the University of Haifa,Israel,has spent the academic year 1996-1997 at the University of Texas at Arlington.He has presented invited talks in several American universities during his term at the University of Texas.He was one of the main organizer at an international meeting held in Prague,Czech Republic,he visited Brazil,Austria and Switzerland attending various events.

DANA BEDIVAN has defended her Ph. D. thesis in December 1996 at the University of Texas at Arlington,under the supervision of Professor George Fix,Jr. The topic of the thesis was "Least Squares Method for Optimum Shape" and pertains to the Finite Element Method.She has been awarded a one-month fellowship at the Oxford University in England.

VIOREL BARBU,with the University of Iasi,Romania,has attended the International Coference on Control In Toulouse,France (May),and has visited several universities in Italy,including the University of Trento where he spent a longer period.

NICOLAE PAVEL,with the Ohio University,Athens,Ohio,has spent two months in Europe,visiting the University of Perpignan in France,the University of Barcelona in Spain,and several universities in Romania.He presented lectures and particiapted in various scientific events.

CHRISTIAN CONSTANDA (Strathclyde University,Glasgow,Scotland),NICOLAE ANGHEL (The University of North Texas,Denton,Texas),HARRY COHN (University of Melbourne,Australia),MIRCEA PREDELEANU (Universite de Paris VI),EVGHENY (Eugen) GREBENNICOV (Moscow) have participated at the international conference "Romania and the Romanians in the Contemporary Science" held in Braşov at the end of May,1997.

A letter from Sweden

The Editor of Libertas Mathematica has received a letter from Mrs. GEORGETA BORCEA,presently residing in the city of Malmo,where she is a Mathematics High School Teacher.We reproduce it here in English translation,this being the first time a High School Teacher of Mathematics,trained in Romania,is contributing to Libertas Mathematica and presenting the new experience and the feature of the transition.

I have resettled in Sweden in the year 1985,after teaching Mathematics at the Economics Lyceum of Bacau in Romania for a period of 15 years,and two more years at a Lyceum in Morocco.I was sure it will be not easy to accomodate to the specifics of the Swedish society,which I found to be rather closed and suspicious about the foreigners.I have discovered the Swedish people to be somewhat shy, very reserved,rationalist,lacking fantasy,prudent,not too talkative, a bit unsecure,and exagerately thankful for the most insignificant service you are rendering.Swedish people are very much preoccupied with money,prices,very serious and correct and generous with respect to those in difficulty.The mentality of the average Swedish is the result of a long period of isolation,here in the cold North.

All foreigners coming to Sweden are rigorously tested in view of the equivalence of their diplomas.As a graduate of the Faculty of Mathematics and Mechanics of the University "Al.I.Cuza" from Iaşi, I have been awarded 180 points for my training.The minimum was 160 points,in order to be a teacher for two disciplines.The award has been made by the Governmental Committee with the Department of Education.It was necessary to spend one more year of training,which I would qualify as being specific to the Swedish school,in order to obtain a job as a teacher of Mathematics.After this year at the university,I have been awarded extra points and declared a "lektor" at the Lyceum level.I had to get through an interview in order to obtain the position I am holding for the last 10 years.

The Swdish school does not cultivate the elitism;in the general opinion of the Swedish society all individuals are equal.This fact is expressed as "A school for all".The task of the Mathematics teacher is to captivate the interest of the students,and convince them of the usefulness of this discipline in everyday life,encouraging them to think and analyse the real world.More precisely,to show them that Mathematics is everywhere around us.This feature leads to totally differnt textbooks of Mathematics in Sweden,thsn those I was familiar with in Romania.After each chapter,there are many practical problems,as they appear in various aspects of life.The authors of the textbooks are highly experience teachers in high schools,and they reflect the prescriptions issued by the Department of Education.Choosing the right textbook at any school,is alocal

matter.The current curriculum has been elaborated in 1994 and contains the following steps in grading the student: IG = failed; G = passed at the limit; UG = solid knowledge; MUG = very good.The study at the Lyceum level are extended on a three-year period.There are several types of mathematical training,designed by letters from A to F. Since the Lyceum has many profiles,each type of mathematical training is adequate only to some of those profiles.This is determined mostly by what the student is going to do after graduation.If he is planning to pursue higher education,them he is required to obtain more advanced training.For instance,a future Engineer will take all courses in Mathematics,up to the F level,while a future Economist will go only to the type C.Since the student has many possibilities in choosing the courses in all disciplines,it is not unusual that in a given course you find students attending quite different levels in various subjects. In order to improve his or her grade,a student can require to be reexamined again and again.

Another specific feature for the Swedish school system is the so-called Lyceum for adult people.These schools are attracting most often persons who are working in services or industry,and in many cases the foreigners who immigrated to Sweden and are interested in completing their training for a more successful accomodation with the Swedish life style.Assigning a student to a certain course requires testing the student.An error of orientation can be corrected after the classes begin.

The Swedish student participates in the choice of classes he has to take,is guided by his teachers and takes personal reponsability in the process of aquiring his or her training.The role of the teacher is subject to continuous change:from conveying simple information on the subject,to guiding the student on his or her path toward the accumulation and discovery of new knowledge.With computers at the library,in classrooms and even in rooms designed for recreation,the student can scan the INTERNET and ask for help from the teachers if he needs it.It is significant that the students and the teachers are working in a single team.

I do remember my students from the school in Romania.They always displayed a "respectful" attitude toward me.I know that their respect for me was often dictated by fear.There is nothing like that in the Swedish school.From the very beginning,I have been somehat shocked by the disinvolt attitude of my students,by the way they addressed me in class,in connection with their difficulties in solving problems or understanding new concepts.From this point of view,the difference with respect to the Romanian school is really shocking.It is usual to communicate the results of a test in class,in order to respect the privacy of each student.

With such a democratic system of education,it appears quite natural that the number of students continuing the education in universities and colleges is rather small.They succeed only in case

they have worked very hard during the high school years.Sweden is experiencing a shortage of students in Science and Mathematics.The mathematical subjects are considered very difficult by many Swedish students,who - generally - are not accustomed with extended effort, self-discipline,rigorosity and competition,as we were familiar with in Romania.Yet,we cannot come to the conclusion that the severity and the almost military discipline in the Romanian schools was a better approach to education.On the contrary,we can infer that the atmosphere of that nature is leading to the destruction of many sensitive minds,to hostility toward the studies and sometimes toward the teachers.It appears to me that the Swedish school is more human and better buiding up an optimistic attitude toward life and society.

In my case,the readaptation to the methods of working with my students and collaborating with my colleagues,has requested a special effort and time.In accordance with the new collective contract in the Swedish system of education,recently adopted,each teacher is requested to teach 21 hours/week at the Lyceum level,and 24 hours per week in the general school (pre-lyceum level).The teachers form teams which are working on improving the process of education and its modernization in accordance with the technological progress.The contnuous improvement of own training is a must for every teacher. This is achieved on a large scale by courses and seminaries organized at some model schools,by actively using computers,at the universities and even in factories.Also,there are many opportunities to change ideas with colleagues in other European countries,and my own experience has lead me in Berlin (1990 and 1996),Paris (1993), London (1994),always on school expenses.

The collective contract contract is requiring that we spend in school no less than 32 hours/week.At these hours one should add the time spent while involved in national level tests or other activities aimed at enhancing the educational process.Great figures of "Professors" like we met in Romania,are not to be found here,even though very good professionals are active in schools.New comers or younger teachers will always get support and guidance from those who are more experienced.

For an East European,the Nordic system of education seems to be quite difficult to understand.At least,for a period of time at the beginning in the new place.The first impression is that of a chaotic atmosphere,lack of control of the process and lack of efficiency.Gradually,after the adaptation to the new style of work and leadership in the Swedish scool (each school has a "rektor" which is the equivalent of a prinipal,several "studierektorer" ,consultants,curators),you get the feeling that the main person toward which all the efforts are concentrated is the Student.I am tempted to call him "His Highness the Student".The lack of control is only

apparent,and the deviation from the school discipline or lack of seriousness at work are discretely punished,with prolonged effects. Very often,the newcomer is tempted to underestimate the seriousness which the Swedish people is dedicated to work.

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DAN PASCALI is a US Citizen,who came to this contry from Romania. While in Romania,he was associated with the Mathematical Institute of the Romanian Academy.After dissolution of this institute in 1975, Dan Pascali has spent time in various Western countries,and finally he settled in the USA.After the fall of communist regime in Romania, he traveled to the Old Country and accepted a position of Professor at the University "Ovidius" in Constantza,Romania.He is commuting between USA and Romania,several times a year.

RADU ROSCA,our octgenarian colleague and Age Dean of the Romanian mathematicians residing outside Romania,is an Emeritus Professor re- siding in Paris,France (Avenue Emile Zola 59),For an extended bio- graphy of Radu Rosca,see Libertas Mathematica,vol.II (1982).

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