

A friend, a professor, a scholar at University of Constanța

To Mirela Ștefănescu, at her 60's

The papers in the present issue are dedicated to our colleague, Professor Mirela Ștefănescu, at her sixties anniversary.

We are honored to express her, on the behalf of all staff in our department, our best wishes for new successes in her activity in the faculty.

Thinking of years passed since Mirela Ștefănescu came to the University of Constanța from the University of Iași-this fact happened in '93-we can easily see that the faculty felt each year as a new step for being included on the map of mathematical events in Romania as well as in the world.

It is sufficient to quote some of these achievements.

In 1994, the Romanian algebraic community has had its National Conference at Constanța and five foreign friends (among them K. W. Roggenkamp from Stuttgart University and Peter Vamos from England) came here giving lectures.

In 1995, a workshop and an algebra conference in Representation Theory of Groups and Algebras had been organized by Mirela Ștefănescu and K. W. Roggenkamp, financed by Volkswagen Stiftung (Foundation). A lot of wonderful algebraists who have been main speakers at high standard international conferences (i.e. ICM 2000, at Kyoto) came to lectured at this conference.

Next year, together with colleagues from Bucharest University, we have been the guests and organizers for another workshop financed by Volkswagen Foundation, a workshop on Algebraic Geometry and Commutative Algebra (with D. Popescu, G. Pfister and J. Herzog).

In 1998 we restarted a tradition interrupted in '90, of having each autumn, at Eforie Nord, a Seminar in Algebra, on a topic elected one year in advance and prepared along the year in our scientific seminars. Now we have the experience of four seminars which facilitate to young researchers and students their entrance in a special field of algebra research.

In 2000, a NATO Advanced Study Institute on Theory of Representation (financed by NATO) and an Euroconference on Algebra (financed by European Union) have occupied almost all the month of August. Many great algebraists have given wonderful lectures at these manifestations (like Efim Zelmanov, Susan Montgomery, Jon F. Carlson, Idun Reiten, Claudio Procesi, Wolfgang Soergel, J. T. Stafford, Henning Andersen, Jeremy Rickard).

All these conferences and seminars have been followed by proceedings, some of them being edited by Mirela Ștefănescu, alone or together with other mathematicians. The last proceedings appeared in Kluwer in 2001 (*Algebra-Representation Theory*, Edited by K. W. Roggenkamp and Mirela Ștefănescu, NATO Science, Series II, vol. 28) and in our journal (vol. 8, 2000, fasc. 2).

An effervescent scientific life has been introduced in our faculty by the presence of Mirela Ștefănescu. Her friends became the faculty's friends, supporting it for getting new achievements.

The young colleagues have considered Mirela Ștefănescu as a paradigm, have been encouraged by her to publish their first papers in the journal: *Analele Științifice ale Universității "Ovidius"*, Seria Matematică, which has been started in '93 by her. Mirela Ștefănescu is the Chief Editor of this journal, which is exchanged with other 26 foreign mathematical journals.

As a professor, Mirela Ștefănescu gives very good lectures to students, and leads the doctoral students to obtain Ph. degree. She has already eight doctoral students who achieved the degree (Dorel Lucanu, Mihai Viorel Gontineac, Mihai Lămătic - from Iași University, Eduard Asadurian and Laurențiu Deaconu - from University of Pitești, Camelia Ciobanu, Elena Popescu, Bogdan Chiriță - from Constanța).

We are quoting some of the publications done by Mirela Ștefănescu since she is in our faculty; there are five books (*Jordan Algebras* (with E. Asadurian), Ed. Niculescu, 2001, *An Introduction to Lie Algebras* (with C. Ciobanu), Ed. Academiei Navale, 2000, *Algebra* (volume edited by N. Radu), Ed. All, 1998, *Galois Theory*, Ed. Ex Ponto, 2002, *Algebraic Hyperstructures and Applications*, Palm Harbour, 1996), a number of papers published in our journal, but also in journals in U.S.A., Austria, Germany.

Professor Mirela Ștefănescu has been invited to some universities in Romania and abroad, in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Ukraine, Russia and others, for giving lectures, for participating at seminars, for common researches.

Let us tell also about the activity of Mirela Ștefănescu as a member of Professors Council in the faculty. She has been the chief of the Division of Mathematics and Informatics and then the chief of the Division of Algebra and Geometry, trying to improve the activity of the division by introducing here the experience she had from University of Iași. She has been grant director for grants financed by the Ministry of Education since 1995 till now. She contributed highly at the affirmation and confirmation of our faculty at the national level.

The Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics as well as the "Ovidius" University are happy to have her as a member of their professional staff.

Last, but not least, Mirela Ștefănescu is a good colleague to whom all of us are wishing: "Many Happy Returns of the Day!"

*Viviana Ene
Silviu Sburlan
(Editors)*