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Professor dr. Honoris Causa Dimitrie D. Stancu at his 75^{th} anniversary

Dimitrie D. Stancu, a distinguished Romanian mathematician, honorary member of the Romanian Academy, was born in February the 11-th, 1927 in the township Călacea, Timiş District, Romania, in a farmer's family. After finishing the secondary school in the prestigious High School ,, Moise Nicoară ", in Arad, he studied at the University of Cluj between 1947-1952, where he came under Tiberiu Popoviciu's influence. After receiving a master's degree in 1952, he obtained his Ph. D. from the University of Cluj under the supervision of T. Popoviciu in 1956.

In 1951 he became assistant at the Department of Mathematics, University of Cluj. Then, in a normal succession, was advanced up to the rank of full professor in 1969. He holds a continuous academic career at this University, except for one year (1961 - 1962), when he was visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin.

Dimitrie D. Stancu is known as ,,Didi" to his friends. For several years (1962 - 1968) he served as Associate Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and hold the position of chairman of the Department of Numerical and Statistical Calculus (1963 - 1972).

He is a member of the American Mathematical Society (1961) and of Gesellschaft für Angewandte Mathematik und Mechanik.

D. D. Stancu also has done extensive reviewing: Mathematical Reviews, Zentralblatt für mathematik and other locations.

Professor D.D. Stancu is member of several editorial committees of mathematical journals: Revue d'Analyse Numérique et de la Theorie de l'Approximation, Studia Univ. ,, Babeş - Bolyai", Mathematica, Calcolo (Italy).

He took part to many international scientific events (symposiums, conferences): Gatlinburg, Tennesse - U.S.A.; Lancaster, Durham - England; Stuttgart, Hannover, Hamburg, Göttingen, Dortmund, München, Siegen, Würzburg, Berlin, Oberwolfach - Germany; Roma, Napoli, Potenza, L'Aquila - Italy; Budapest - Hungary; Paris - France; Sofia, Varna - Bulgaria; Brno - Czech Republic.

He has been invited to present lectures at several Universities from U.S.A. (Ohio State University, University of South Carolina, Vanderbilt University , PACE University, Pleasantville, N.Y.); Germany (Stuttgart, Hannover, Göttingen, Dortmund, Münster, Siegen, Würzburg, Berlin); Holland (Delft, Eindhoven).

Many doctoral students, from Romania and above, were working under his scientific guidance.

Professor D.D. Stancu has important mathematical contributions in various areas of numerical analysis, approximation theory, numerical differentiation, orthogonal polynomials, numerical quadratures and cubature, Taylor - type expansions, approximation by linear positive operators, representations of remainders in linear approximation formulas, probabilistic methods for construction and investigation of linear operators of approximation, use of interpolation and calculus of finite differences in probability theory and mathematical statistics. After 1959, he became interested in approximation theory by means of sequences of linear positive operators. Thus began his very influential work on approximation of functions, whose echoes can be traced in many directions, e.g. to monographs [108],[109] and also [113]. Under D. D. Stancu leadership, his colleagues have organized in Cluj - Napoca some scientific meetings: ,, International Conference on Approximation and Optimization" (1996) and ,, International Symposium on Numerical Analysis and Approximations Theory" (2002).

His research activity brought him recognition in Romania and above. University ,,Lucian Blaga" of Sibiu accorded him, in 1995, the scientific title of Doctor Honoris Causa. In 1999 he has been elected Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy.

He has the extraordinary ability to touch deeply the lives of all whom he associated, whatever their background and experience. He has a warm and sensitive personality. One of the really remarkable things about Dimitrie D. Stancu's commitment to math is that he knew how to hand it on others. In this way he inspired many students and colleagues to do some of their best work. His door was always open to them.

Professor D. D. Stancu is an important - a very influential-mathematician. He is a mathematician whose work possessed power, grace and beauty.He is a wonderful human being and a brilliant and profound mathematician.

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Selected Publications

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