Nicolae Popescu

Nicolae Popescu (born 22 September 1937, at Strehaia, Romania) is a Romanian mathematician and Emeritus Professor. Popescu was elected a Member of the Romanian Academy in 1992, and he is best known for his contributions to Algebra and the theory of abelian categories. Since 1964 he collaborated on the characterization of abelian categories with the well-known French mathematician Pierre Gabriel. His areas of expertise are: Category theory, abelian categories with Applications to Rings and Modules, Adjoint Functors [1] and limits/colimits [2] ,Theory of Rings, Fields and Polynomials, and Valuation Theory; he also has interests and published in the following areas: Algebraic Topology, Algebraic Geometry, Commutative Algebra, K-Theory, Class-Field theory, and Algebraic Function Theory. He published between 1962 and 2008 more than 102 papers in peer-reviewed, mathematics journals, several monographs on the theory of sheaves, and also six books on abelian category theory and abstract algebra. In a Grothendieck-like, energetic style, he initiated and provided scientific leadership to several seminars on category theory[3] , sheaves and abstract algebra which resulted in a continuous stream of high-quality mathematical publications in international, peer-reviewed mathematics journals by several members participating in his Seminar series. His book *Abelian Categories with Applications to Rings and Modules*[4] continues to provide valuable information to mathematicians around the world. His recent contributions have also branched into valuation and number theory.

Biography

Popescu is married and has three children. He earned his M.S. degree in mathematics in 1964, and his Ph.D. degree in mathematics in 1967, both at the University of Bucharest. He was awarded a D. Phil. degree (Doctor Docent) in 1972 by the University of Bucharest.

Presently, he continues his mathematics studies at the Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy in the Algebra research group [5] and also has international collaborations on three continents. One finds from conversations with Academician Popescu that he shares many moral, ethical and religious values with another famous mathematician French-German-Jewish Alexander Grothendieck who visited the School of Mathematics in Bucharest in 1968. Like Grothendieck he has a long-standing interest in category theory, number theory, practicing Yoga, and supporting promising young mathematicians in his fields of interest. He also supported the early developments of category theory applications in relational biology and mathematical biophysics/mathematical biology.

Academic positions

Popescu was appointed as a Lecturer at the University of Bucharest in 1968 where he taught graduate students until 1972. Since 1964, he also held a Research Professorship [6] at the Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy, which institute was ruthlessly eliminated by former dictator and president of S.R. Romania, Nicolae Ceauşescu, in 1976 for reasons related to his daughter Zoe Ceauşescu who was 'hired' by the Mathematics Institute in Bucharest two years before.

Books published

1. Elemente de teoria analitica a numerelor, Univ. Bucuresti, 1968.
2. Teoria categoriilor si teoria fascicolelor, Ed. Stiintifica, 1971.
3. Categorii Abeliene, Ed. Academiei, 1971.
4. Nicolae Popescu. Abelian categories with Applications to Rings and Modules, Academic Press, L. M. S. Monograph No.3, London, 1973, ISBN=0125615507. [7]
5. Popescu, Nicolae; Popescu, Liliana Theory of categories. Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, The Hague; Sijthoff & Noordhoff International Publishers, Alphen aan den Rijn, 1979. x+337 pp. ISBN 90-286-0168-6.
6. Selected topics in valuation theory (to appear).

External links

- Nicolae Popescu - Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy [6]
- Nicolae Popescu --Biography [8]

References

[1] http://planetmath.org/encyclopedia/AdjointFunctor.html

[2] http://planetmath.org/encyclopedia/AdjointFunctor.html

[3] http://planetphysics.org/encyclopedia/FunctorialAlgebraicGeometry.html Seminars on Algebraic Geometry and Category theory

[4] Nicolae Popescu. Abelian Categories with Applications to Rings and Modules, Academic Press, L. M. S. Monograph No.3, London, 1973.,ISBN 0125615507 (http://www.lib.iastate.edu:81/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=1WB345344H890.711450&profile=parks& source=~!horizon&view=items&uri=full=3100001~!47305~!0&ri=1&aspect=basic_search&menu=search&ipp=20&spp=20& staffonly=&term=Modules+(Algebra)&index=PSUBJ&uindex=&aspect=basic_search&menu=search&ri=1#focus)

[5] http://www.imar.ro/prez/prez_algebra.html

[6] http://www.imar.ro/~nipopesc/

[7] http://www.lib.iastate.edu:81/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=1WB345344H890.711450&profile=parks&source=~!horizon&view=items& uri=full=3100001~!47305~!0&ri=1&aspect=basic_search&menu=search&ipp=20&spp=20&staffonly=&term=Modules+ %28Algebra%29&index=PSUBJ&uindex=&aspect=basic_search&menu=search&ri=1#focus

[8] http://planetphysics.org/?op=getobj&from=objects&id=810

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