

Prof. RNDr. Beloslav Riečan, DrSc. septuagenarian

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In spring 2006 prof. Beloslav Riečan celebrated his seventieth birthday. He belongs to the most important mathematicians of Slovakia.

Prof. B. Riečan was born on November 11, 1936 at Žilina. Here he attended the primary school and a very famous high school, Gymnázium of Andrej Sládkovič. In years 1953 - 1958 he studied at Faculty of Natural Science of Comenius University in Bratislava, discipline Mathematics, specialization Mathematical Analysis. Here he had excellent teachers who belong to the first generation of the Slovak Mathematicians: *Jur Hronec, Otakar Borůvka, Michal Greguš, Anton Huťa, Milan Kolibiar, Tibor Neubrunn, Tibor Šalát* and *Valter Šeda*. His school-class was one of the best in the history; his student fellows became a decoration of the Slovak mathematical Society: *Pavol Brunovský, Ján Černý, Arnold Dávid, Jozef Gruska, Pavol Kluvánek, Zdena Petrovičová - Riečanová, Jozef Moravčík, Miloš Franek, Zoltán Zalabai* and others. During his studies he wrote to scientific activity under guidance of Prof. Milan Kolibiar and immediately his first paper *On axiomatic of modular lattices*, *Acta Fac. Rer. Nat. Univ. Comeniana, Math.* **2** (1957), 257-262 (in Slovak), was a top hit. This paper was quoted in monographs of G. Birghoff, L. A. Skornjakov and G. Grätzer. Every specialist of lattice theory knows very well how a great distinction for the author are such quotations in these three fundamental books.

After finishing his studies in 1958, he started to work at the Department of Mathematics of the Slovak Technical University, Bratislava (1958 - 1971). In 1962 - 1964 he was a PhD-student of Prof. Štefan Schwarz, another giant of the Slovak Maths. In 1965 he defended the PhD-thesis *On some relations between measure and topology* at the Mathematical Institute of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava. In 1966 he was the Associated Prof., and he started to give lectures also at Faculty of Natural Sciences of Comenius University. In 1980 he defended the scientific degree DrSc. by work *On two conceptions of measure theory*, and in 1981 he was appointed as the University Professor. From 1972 he worked at this Faculty, and in 1985 he moved to Liptovský Mikuláš, to the Department of Math. of the Military Academy to come back in 1989 to Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Bratislava, as the first willingly elected Dean. Since 1992 he was the Director of Institute of Mathematics of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, and since 1998 he is back in the city of his youth, Banská Bystrica, where he is the Professor at the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Matej Bel University.

Prof Riečan belongs to the most important mathematicians of Slovakia. He is the author or coauthor of 6 monographs, 164 papers published in scientific journals, 77 technical papers, 5 university textbooks, 71 high-school textbooks and text tools, 9 scripts, 11 books on mathematics, 7 tv-scripts, over 400 publicists articles. His papers were quoted in 490 articles. He was a PhD-supervisor of 22 PhD-students, which is a Slovak unique, and he was a supervisor of over

50 diploma-theses. Many of his former students are nowadays leading personalities of our universities and of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. His professional activity is probability theory, measure theory and integration, fuzzy sets, intuitionistic fuzzy sets and quantum structures.

His scientific, pedagogical, organizing activity was many time awarded on many national and international platforms. I mention only the latest ones: Honorary member of Union of Slovak Mathematicians and Physicists (1987), the Gold Honourable Plague of Jur Hronec of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava for deserts in the Mathematical Sciences (1995), the Gold Medal of the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Comenius University in Bratislava (1996), Honourable Medal of Bernard Bolzano of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech republic (1998), the Silver Medal of University of Milano (2000), the Medal of the Slovak Academy of Sciences for support for science (2001), the Decoration of Ľudovít Štúr first-rate (2002), the Commemorative medal of Faculty of Mathematics and Physics Carolinium University in Prague (2004) and others.

On the present time Prof. Riečan gives the lectures on the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Matej bel University in Banská Bystrica. He is the president of senate of this Faculty and a member of convocation of this Faculty. He is the president of the branch office of the Union of Slovak Mathematicians and Physicists, he is the vice president of the Convocation of Slovak National Library. He is a member of the editorial boards of many mathematical and cultural journals. The scientific work and cultural life are more intense after his arrival on contemporary place of work.

Prof. Riečan is a fanatic propagator of mathematics and music. As an outstanding musician and musical expert, since 1984 together with an important Slovak musician Prof. Roman Berger are guiding the Seminar *Mathematics and Music*, and around this seminar a circle of Slovak, Czech as well as foreigner intellectuals is concerned.

Dear Belo, we wish you by the occasion of your important life event good health, happiness and many successes in work for pleasure of Slovak mathematical Society.

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