Bogoljub Stanković

GENERAL

Academician Bogoljub Stanković was born on 1 September 1924 in a village of Botoš, in the county of Zrenjanin. He finished his primary and grammar school in Novi Sad. When the war started he was in the sixth form of the grammar school. In June 1944 he was arrested by the Hungarian secret police and had been to many camps in Hungary and Germany. At the time when the war ended he was in Dachau Concentration Camp. He began his studies of mathematics at the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade in 1945 and graduated in June 1949. During the last year at the Faculty he received a grant from the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. As a student he took part in the building of Brčko – Banovići and Šamac – Sarajevo railroads.

In 1949 he was elected assistant professor at the Mathematical Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, where he received his PhD Degree in 1954. When the Novi Sad Faculty of Philosophy and its Department of Mathematics were founded in 1954, the Faculty's Main Committee chose him to be one of its first professors. Therefore, since the Department's early beginnings, he took part in the organisation and performance of teaching as well as in the preparation of students for the research work. He was the founder of the mathematical analysis seminar and has been its leader for 48 years now. Nearly all professors of mathematical analysis have been through this seminar. In 1959, he was elected associate and in 1964 its full professor. He retired in 1990. He was elected a corresponding member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in 1963 and in 1972 he became its full member. He was elected a full member and the first president of the Vojvodina Academy of Sciences and Arts in 1979.

Academician Bogoljub Stanković occupied various functions at the University and Faculty. He was Head of the Department of Mathematics of the Faculty of Natural Sciences in Novi Sad, Dean and Vice-Dean of the Faculty, Director of the Institute for University Teaching of the University in Novi Sad, Director of the Mathematical Institute of the Faculty of Natural Sciences in Novi Sad and he served as Rector of the University of Novi Sad for one term.

He is married and has two daughters. He speaks English and French fluently, and also has some knowledge of German, Russian and Hungarian.

TEACHING CAREER

a) Teaching at regular study programmes

The complete teaching career of Bogoljub Stanković is connected with the Faculty of Philosophy, i.e. the Faculty of Natural Sciences in Novi Sad. As its first professor of analysis at the Department of Mathematics he had the pleasure of taking part in preparation and adaptation of school curriculums for the group of mathematicians from the Department's earliest beginnings. He was active in modelling and teaching of all subjects in the field of analysis and its application at the Faculty of Philosophy, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad.

b) Teaching at the three year study programmes and teaching by invitation
He supervised the three year study programmes at the Faculty of Natural Sciences until he retired, as well as the three year study programmes of mathematics at the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad.

He was invited to the University of Paris to teach General Mathematics during 1959/1960 school year. He also gave lectures by invitation at the universities in Zagreb, Budapest, Szeged, Debrecen, Kuwait, Allahabad (in India), Brisbane (in Australia) etc.

He supervised more than fifteen doctoral theses of candidates from the country and abroad and also gave his opinion in writing for several foreign doctoral theses.

c) Modernisation of the teaching process
Academician Stanković paid particular attention to the process of teaching and planning of teaching units. In the polls conducted among students, he had always been rated with the highest scores for the lectures he held. He put particular emphasis on the reception of the first-year students and their adaptation to university teaching.

III SCIENTIFIC WORK

a) Participation in scientific meetings
On the initiative of Polish mathematicians and the Mathematical Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Katowice, the researchers in the field of general functions gather at scientific meetings always in a different country. The first meeting was held in Poland in 1963, and the second in Yugoslavia (in the town of Srebrno). Until today the meetings were held in the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, India etc. Three more meetings were held in Yugoslavia (in 1987 in Dubrovnik, in 1996 and 2004 in Novi Sad). The most eminent mathematicians in this field from all over the world, from Japan to North and South America, take part in these meetings. This makes it possible to keep up with the latest results in this field.

Academician Bogoljub Stanković was invited to deliver lectures at all these meetings. Lectures from these conferences are later published as proceedings and sold by the world leading publishers (Plenum Press, New York; World Scientific, Singapore etc.) or the international journals (International transform and special functions, London; Uspehi Matematičeskih Nauk, Moscow etc.).

In addition, academician Bogoljub Stanković was invited to take part in a number of other meetings in Hungary, Poland, Germany, Russia, India, Kuwait, Australia and Yugoslavia. He also delivered lectures at almost all world congresses that were held during his teaching career as well as at all Yugoslav congresses of mathematicians.

b) Project work
Through joint projects with the Institutes of the Soviet Union Academies of Sciences, Poland and Bulgaria, academician Bogoljub Stanković contributed to connecting our researchers with the great research centers in the world.

He was also the leader of the project financed from the common USA – YU fund (1985 – 1988 and 1989 – 1992). That was the first project in former Yugoslavia accepted to be financed by the American National Science Foundation.

c) Editorial work
Academician Bogoljub Stanković has been a member of the Editorial Board of a number of journals published in the country and abroad, as well as of several Proceedings of international conferences.

IV OTHER ACTIVITY

Academician Bogoljub Stanković used to be a member of the Mathematical Society of Yugoslavia and is now a member of the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Society of Serbia.

He had long been a member of the Executive Committee of the Society of Mathematicians, Physicists and Astronomers of Yugoslavia. In addition, he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Balkan Mathematical Union and the European Mathematical Society.

From 1991 to 1995, he was Head of the Department of Mathematics of the Mathematical Institute of SASA.

Academician Bogoljub Stanković has been involved in many social activities. We will name just some of them. He was a member of the Council for Education and Culture of the Federal Assembly and a member of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union – its Board for Yugoslavia (1969 – 1974). He was also a representative of our country at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in Caracas and Vice-President of the Presidency for Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference on Mediterranean Sea Pollution in Rome in 1974. He was in a three-member delegation from our country that visited the countries of South America, Caribbean Area and Washington (within the Inter-Parliamentary Union).

V SIGNIFICANT HONOURS AND AWARDS

a) Awards
October Award of Novi Sad City in 1962, Award for the Liberation of Vojvodina in 1976, 7th July Award of the Republic of Serbia in 1978, AVNOJ Award in 1981.

b) Orders
Order of Merit to the Nation with Silver Rays in 1965, Order of Labour with Gold Wreath in 1973, Order of Labour with Red Banner in 1973, Order of Brotherhood and Unity with Gold Wreath in 1979.

c) International acknowledgement
Officier de l'ordere national merite, Republique France; Honourable Citizen of the American City of Baltimore. Honourable Member of the Executive Board of the journal "Fractional Calculus and Applied Analysis".