



Newsletter

Volume 003 issue 04

April 2012

Dear Colleagues,

This editorial will consist primarily of a short report of a recent experience in Greece. It concerns the future of the ARPAM project, the transmission of the culture of mathematics, and the status of mathematics as seen by mathematicians.

*Could mathematics become as popular as song and dance or football, so that mathematicians might be solicited for autographs? I was quite amazed to find that at the end of a mathematics lecture to a class of ten-year old Greek students, some of them came up to ask for an autograph. (The lecture was based on *Bonne Année and Pâtisserie Mathématique* (<http://www.math-art.eu/documents/index.html>)). Apparently, these children do not consider mathematics as a repulsive science. Would their attitude announce a general transformation as to how mathematics is perceived?*

Equally successful were two other lectures given before classes of twelve-year olds and sixteen-year olds from different schools and of different social origins. These lectures were given in French or Franglish, with simultaneous translation into Greek.

The recorded facts, in accordance with similar past experiences related in earlier Newsletters, underscore the value of the pedagogical content of these lectures and of their positive role in transmitting the culture of mathematics. This type of lecture deserves to be heard in all public schools.

A one hour conference concerning the ARPAM project (<http://www.math-art.eu/documents/pdfs/ARPAM.pdf>) was held before an audience of approximately 400 people at the University of Athens. The conference was given under the aegis of the Evgenidi Foundation, and at the invitation of the President of the Hellenic Mathematical Society, Professor Grigoris Kalogeropoulos, and of Professor Dimosthenis Varopoulos, who heads the local project, "Mathematics and Art". I was later told that the Hellenic Mathematical Society would like to materialize the project within the wooded campus of the University of Athens. Since a similar project is being planned in Russia, a working committee should





European Society for Mathematics and the Arts

now be set up by Dmitri Kozlov and Dimos Varopoulos.

Thanks to Dimos, I was able to visit the lovely, and possibly until now unique museum strictly devoted to mathematics and art (<http://www.herakleidon-art.gr>). Exposés are given here to groups of children.

A renewal of our website will include references of such valuable institutions.

The Proceedings of our first ESMA Conference in 2010 are being printed, at last. It took over a year to bring the papers to their final form and over six months to have the final proofs. The constraints imposed by Springer on the emplacements of the figures do not always give satisfactory results.

Best wishes.
Claude

P.S. The Society always appreciates your New Year donation or payment of your membership dues for the year 2012.

RELEVÉ D'IDENTITÉ BANCAIRE					
Identifiant national de compte bancaire - RIB					
Banque	Guichet	N° compte	Clé	Devise	Domiciliation
10278	06009	00020359101	51	EUR	CCM BURES SUR YVETTE
Identifiant international de compte bancaire					
IBAN (International Bank Account Number)				BIC (Bank Identifier Code)	
FR7610278060090002035910151				CMCIFR2A	

Please confirm to us your payment by e-mail.

Claude Bruter, Publisher. Contributors : Sharon Breit-Giraud, Francesco De Comite, Richard Denner, Jos Leys. Website : <http://www.math-art.eu>

