To Professor Solomon Marcus
on the Occasion of his 90th Birthday

Solomon Marcus, member of the Romanian Academy and emeritus professor of
the Faculty of Mathematics of the University of Bucharest, celebrated his 90th on
March 1. He was born in Bacău, in 1925, to a Jewish family of tailors. He graduated
from Ferdinand I High School in 1944, completed his studies at the University of
Bucharest’s Faculty of Science, Department of Mathematics, in 1949, and obtained
his PhD in Mathematics in 1956, with a thesis on the Monotonic functions of two
variables, written under the direction of Miron Nicolescu. He was appointed Lecturer
in 1955, Associate Professor in 1964, and Professor in 1966 (Emeritus in 1991).
Became corresponding member of the Romanian Academy on April 21, 1993 and
was named a full member on December 21, 2001.

His main research is in the fields of mathematical analysis, mathematical and
computational linguistics and computer science, but he also published numerous
papers on various topics in the humanities: poetics, linguistics, semiotics, philos-
ophy and history of science and education. He published more than 50 books in
Romanian, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Greek, Hungarian,
Czech, Serbo-Croatian, and about 400 research articles in specialized journals
in almost all European countries, in the United States, Canada, South America,
Japan, India, and New Zealand among others. He is cited by more than a thou-
sand authors, including mathematicians, computer scientists, linguists, literary re-
searchers, semioticians, anthropologists and philosophers and is mentioned in the
world’s prestigious encyclopaedias, including Brockhaus, the Italian Encyclopaedia, Encyclopaedia Universalis, as well as specialist encyclopaedias of mathematics, computer science, cybernetics, linguistics, semiotics and literature. Solomon Marcus is recognised as a pioneer of mathematical linguistics and of mathematical poetics, and his models for linguistic categories, such as phonemes, grammar case and gender, morphological homonymy, syntax projectivity, distinctions between scientific and poetic languages and strategy of drama charters caught the attention of hundreds of linguists, mathematicians, computer scientists, semioticians, philosophers and literary theoreticians.

In the field of education, he advocated new curricula and new relationships between teachers and students as well as for a new kind of school textbooks in which the emphasis is to switch from interrogative to dubitative by introducing critical spirit and ludic elements in learning and defended a culture underpinned by balance and interaction between sciences and arts, between hard sciences and social and human sciences.

A collection of his papers in English followed by some interviews was published as Words and Languages Everywhere (Polimetrica S.a.s. International Scientific Publisher, Italy, in 2007), while the book Meetings with Solomon Marcus (Spandugino Publishing House, Bucharest, Romania, 2010, 1500 pages), edited by Lavinia Spandonide and Gheorghe Păun, on the occasion of Marcus’s 85th birthday, includes contributions of several hundred people from a large variety of scientific and cultural fields, and from 25 countries. It also contains a longer autobiography.

In recent years, we have had his support for our work on the mathematical journal Libertas Mathematica (new series) dedicated to promoting the values of Romanian school of mathematics, publishing a paper and contributing with referee reports. It was a joy for us to get be in touch with him and feel this support.

This issue of Libertas Mathematica (new series) is dedicated to Professor Solomon Marcus in celebration of his 90th birthday, as a recognition of his outstanding contribution to mathematical research and to honor the Romanian school of mathematics and helping to increase its prestige.

Vasile Staicu - Editor-in-Chief