

LAST FAREWELL TO JULIANNA SZENDREI HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS ELTE TÓK

Dr. Julianna Szendrei, Head of the Department of Mathematics of the ELTE TÓK (Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Primary and Pre-school Education) passed away on 13th January 2013 at the age of 65. Her colleagues will preserve her memory with love and affection.

Funeral services will be held on 12 February 2013 at 11 o'clock in the new public cemetery of Rákoskeresztúr (Budapest, X. Kozma u. 8-10).

Dr Julianna Szendrei

Budapest, 08. 05. 1948 – Budapest, 13. 01. 2013

A brief survey of her activity

From 1991 she headed the Department of Mathematics at ELTE TÓK (Faculty of Primary and Pre-school Education). Previously she worked as co-worker at the National Institute of Education responsible for organising and directing the complex experiment of teaching mathematics in the upper primary school (age 10-14). It was her task to attend to the mathematics curriculum for the upper –primary and vocational secondary schools. Within the framework of this duty she led a wide range of in-service teachers training courses. She co-wrote the mathematics curriculum published in 1978, also co-authored manuals, handbooks, textbooks written to the new curriculum. She participated in the development of the National Curriculum in 1995 and in 2003 as well.

As senior member of the National Institute of Education she attended to teaching mathematics in vocational and technical secondary schools and was responsible for the OKTV (National Competition for Secondary School Students) and for the school leaving examinations in mathematics on national level.

She was leader, coordinator or participant of several national and international researches. These included the international mathematics test, the IEA II., the so called SIMULO test, which compared Hungarian, Brazilian and Canadian children's probability thinking, and also included the TEMPUS project, which coordinated the activity of Hungarian, French, Italian and German universities. The subject of the latter project was including the use of math applications, pocket calculators and personal computers in pre- and in-service teacher training.

She was member of the Swiss-registered CIEAEM International Mathematics Education Commission, its vice president for 4 years, then president for another 4 years. She also took part in the work of the editorial boards of several national and international professional journals (Polygon, Recherché en Didactique des Mathématiques, Journal of Mathematics Teacher Education).

She took a prominent part in launching the mathematics-didactics doctorate school at the University of Debrecen and worked in the doctoral training as well.

She presented mathematics as an integral part of human culture, always in relation to aesthetic quality, to playfulness and the mother tongue.

She knew how to teach mathematics to young and old alike in an interesting and likeable way, inserting it in the complex process of education.

She played a prominent role in teacher training and in the social-academic life of our faculty. Her creativity, versatility, devoted professional work and compassionate personality will always remain a model for the staff and the students of the faculty.