

To the memory of
Professor Antal Iványi
1942 – 2017

by Péter Burcsi

Professor Antal Iványi was born in 1942 in Kecskemét, Hungary. He graduated from the Veszprém University of Chemical Engineering with merit in 1965 and from Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) as a mathematics teacher in 1969. He obtained his PhD in 1972, became candidate of the mathematical sciences in 1975 and doctor of the mathematical sciences in 1984.

He first worked as an assistant professor in Veszprém. He moved to ELTE in 1971, becoming an associate professor in 1975 and full professor in 1984. He spent several years in the 70's and 80's in Russia, doing research and teaching at Moscow State University.

He worked for more than 40 years at ELTE. He was always open for new ideas in teaching and research, happily taking responsibility for working out course materials, leading students in research and organizing events.

He helped develop courses since the foundation of the "programming mathematician" major at ELTE, including parallel programming and operating systems among others. He was also enthusiastic about giving lectures on mathematical and algorithmic aspects of bridge, chess, sudoku etc., attracting several students to serious research by his playful approach.

He played a leading role in creating lecture notes and books, and also translating important foreign work into Hungarian, most notably perhaps leading the group for the translation of Introduction to Algorithms by Cormen, Leiserson and Rivest and the newer chapters of The Art of Computer Programming by Knuth. He led the work leading to the creation of Algorithms in Informatics in Hungarian and English and also an English-Hungarian dictionary for informatics.

He authored about 50 international journal papers. He served as an editor for several international journals and worked in the program committees of conferences. Throughout his life he worked hard for the Hungarian mathematical and informatics community including Hungarian colleagues living and working outside our borders. In 2005, he was awarded the Neumann prize by the John von Neumann Computer Society.

He will be sorely missed by his many colleagues, co-authors, students and friends in the mathematics and computer science community.

