

FMI CELEBRATES 50 YEARS¹

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In 1961 in the city of Plovdiv the Higher Pedagogical Institute of Natural and Mathematical Disciplines was founded, for the training teachers in natural sciences and mathematics. The following years the mathematics program showed sustainable development and in 1970 the Faculty of Mathematics was established, as the first independent faculty. Two years later, by a Decree of the State Council, the Institute was transformed into Plovdiv University. The Faculty received its current name in 1990.

Today, the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics (FMI) is one of the largest faculties at Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University and is an reputable center for research and training of specialists in mathematics, informatics and pedagogy of teaching mathematics, informatics and information technologies.

At present, 84 highly qualified lecturers work at the Faculty, 39 of whom are habilitated (9 professors and 26 associate professors), and 31 are head assistant professors. There is one lecturer with a Doctor of Science degree, and 66 have a PhD degree. Currently, the Faculty has 7 guest lecturers (6 professors and one associate professor). For the last 10 years, 16 lecturers have acquired the academic position of professor, 28 – associate professor, 27 – head assistant professor, and four have obtained the scientific degree of Doctor of Science.

The teaching staff of FMI has a considerable number of scientific publications in renowned journals referenced in Web of Science, Scopus and other world scientific databases; talks presented at recognized international congresses and conferences; participations in national and European research projects; monographs published by well-known international publishers; citations from Bulgarian and international scientists; participations as reviewers in leading international peer-reviewed journals and memberships in international mathematical societies and academies.

Currently, the Faculty consists of seven departments – Algebra and Geometry, Mathematical Analysis, Computer Informatics, Computer Tech-

¹The full text of the article is available in bulgarian on-line at the website of the conference <http://remia2021.fmi-plovdiv.org/papers/golev.pdf>

nologies, Computer Systems, Software Technologies and Education in Mathematics, Informatics and Information Technologies and Unit Training Computer Halls.

Every year, nearly 2,000 students study in the bachelor's specialties in full-time and part-time form. Of these programs, four are in the field of Informatics and Computer Science, three are in the field of Mathematics and two specialties are in the field of Pedagogy of teaching mathematics, informatics and information technology. The faculty offers 17 one-year and two-year master's programs, and for the academic year 2021–2022 they train over 140 students. Postgraduate training programs for the qualification of teacher of mathematics and teacher of informatics and IT are provided. In 2021 more than 60 PhD students are being trained in PhD programs. For the last 10 years, more than 100 PhD students have successfully defended their theses and obtained PhD degree. All programs and PhD programs of the faculty are accredited by NEAA with high marks.

FMI has one auditoria, four lecture rooms, eleven computer rooms with 16 workstations each, six large computer rooms with 36 workstations each and six seminar rooms. The Faculty is serviced by gigabit Internet connection and 10 Gbps support infrastructure. We have our own cloud infrastructure, implemented with three computing nodes and two data storage systems.

The Faculty is proud of its alumni, who are successfully realized whether in Bulgaria or elsewhere in the world. They are accredited scientists and university lecturers, heads of departments, faculties and universities. Thousands of them are teachers, school principals, experts and managers in the field of education. Many of them are highly qualified experts in various companies on the cutting edge of informatics and information technology, in banks and insurance companies, in business and trade, or on R&D teams. Quite some of our alumni have become politicians or officials in the local and central governments: mayors, regional governors, members of Parliament, ambassadors, deputy-ministers, ministers, and even deputy prime ministers.

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