



Εθνικό και Καποδιστριακό
Πανεπιστήμιο Αθηνών
Τμήμα Μαθηματικών

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ΠΜΣ Διδακτική και Μεθοδολογία των Μαθηματικών

Διαλέξεις Σεμιναρίου

ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2015

ΠΕΜΠΤΗ 24 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ 2015

ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΟΜΙΛΙΑΣ:

«Mathematical ideas that were ‘ahead of their time’ : examples from the work of Bernard Bolzano»

ΤΟΠΟΣ:

Αίθουσα Α22, Τμήμα Μαθηματικών ΕΚΠΑ

Ώρα έναρξης: 6.30μμ

ΟΜΙΛΗΤΗΣ:

- **Steve Russ**, University of Warwick, (επί πολλά έτη Πρόεδρος της Μαθηματικής Εταιρείας της Αγγλίας)

ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ:

Bernard Bolzano (1781 – 1848) was a priest and Professor of Religious Knowledge at the Charles University, Prague from 1805 until his dismissal in 1820. Throughout his life he worked intensively on mathematics and philosophy, often gaining insights and achievements that were far ahead of his time. We shall illustrate this with examples from geometry (topological definitions of line, surface and solid, 1817), analysis (construction of a continuous, but non-differentiable, function and a substantial theory of real numbers, both from the early 1830’s), and set theory (insights into infinite collections, 1840’s). We shall ask: What does it mean for mathematical ideas to be ‘ahead of their time’? and ‘Is mathematical history written by the victors?’ (the title of a recent paper by Jacques Bair et al in the Notices of the AMS).

The publication of Bolzano’s prodigious output is only now nearing completion in the Bernard Bolzano Gesamtausgabe (129 volumes, Frommann-Holzboog). A brief overview of this edition will also be given.