

PRESS RELEASE

In Kyiv, world famous scientist Georgy Voronoï is commemorated

Special meeting devoted to 150th anniversary of world famous mathematician of Ukrainian origin Georgy Voronoï was held on April 23 at the Department of Physics and Mathematics of the Mykhailo Drahomanov National Pedagogical University.

The film “Georgy Voronoï, Ukrainian and Polish Mathematician” (produced by Chernihiv Television and Radio Company in 2013, directed by Tetiana Myrhorodska) was demonstrated. Although screenplay contains some mistakes and inaccuracies, one can obtain information about life, research and teaching of the genius scientist.

Guests of the event spoke how they use Voronoï’s results in their research work.

Academician **Yaroslav Yatskiv**, Director of the Main Astronomical Observatory of the NAS of Ukraine, and his co-workers Dr. **Daria Dobrycheva** and Dr. **Iryna Vavilova** spoke about mathematical methods to study large-scale structures and evolution of galaxies. Prof. **Oleksandr Rud** (Georgy Kurdyumov Institute for Metal Physics of the NAS of Ukraine) said how to use Voronoï polyhedral analysis for study of disordered systems.

Dr. **Halyna Syta** (Mykhailo Drahomanov National Pedagogical University) researched Georgy Voronoï’s work and history of his family for many years. She recalled how a group of mathematicians from Kyiv visited Zhuravka in 1982 for the first time: they saw a grave of the scientist, and the house of Voronoï family existed at that time. She is also got acquainted with Georgy’s daughter Maria Vorona-Vasylenko, when Maria lived in Boryspil. Researcher cites Maria’s words, “In our family, we knew do not think about wealth (although we never were rich) and do not think about glory, but about glory of Ukraine”.

Halyna Syta also recalled a famous Lina Kostenko’s lecture “The humanitarian aura of the nation” and discussed scientific aura of the nation. This means that we should respect people that contributed to scientific and engineering progress of mankind. Dr. **Olga Pshenychna** (Ivan Frantsevych Institute for Problems in Materials Science of the NAS of Ukraine) supported this opinion. She believes that mind, intellectuals, and real elite of the nation are very undervalued in modern Ukraine. Zhuravka is well known for Olga because her parents were born in this beautiful village, and it is also undervalued by its residents.

Prof. **Massimo Capaccioli** (University of Naples Federico II) is very impressed by this event. His student showed Voronoï mosaics to him, when Capaccioli was already a university professor. “But I did not know anything about Voronoï. Now I know that he is Ukrainian. So, I am happy to visit Ukraine even more,” Capaccioli said.

Many educational and memorial events devoted to the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Georgy Voronoï at the national level will be held during this week. Details are at the website:

<http://voronoi2018.npu.edu.ua/en/voronoi150>

Photos by **Roman Nikiforov** (Mykhailo Drahomanov National Pedagogical University):

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7cElc8BYHqWajIha2>

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Contact person: **Oleksandr Baranovskyi** (Kyiv Mathematical Society)

email: ombaranovskyi@gmail.com

mobile phone/viber: +380 93 691 3731