Editorial note

A special issue in honor of Professors Toma Albu and Constantin Năstăsescu
(by Şerban Raianu)

This issue of the Bulletin is dedicated to two of the most distinguished, accomplished and prolific Romanian mathematicians, Professors Toma Albu and Constantin Năstăsescu, on the occasion of their eightieth birthdays. In the early 1970s, they both got their doctorates at the University of Bucharest, under the guidance of Professor Ionel Bucur, and earlier in their careers they shared an interest in torsion theory, which led to twelve joint publications culminating with the monograph Relative Finiteness in Module Theory, which became a standard reference in the field. They were both professors at the Faculty of Mathematics, University of Bucharest.

Professor Toma Albu is the author or co-author of three monographs, eleven textbooks, and more than 100 refereed research articles, published in various prestigious international journals or proceedings from France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Poland, Switzerland, and USA. His work has been cited more than 500 times by more than 200 authors from all over the world. His fields of research include ring and module theory, field theory, algebraic theory of lattices and algebraic number theory. He supervised over ten Ph.D. students, and serves on the editorial board of Gazeta Matematică, Bulletin Mathématique de la Société des Sciences Mathématiques de Roumanie and Communications in Algebra. He was awarded the Simion Stoilow Prize for Mathematics of the Romanian Academy in 1984. As a Humboldt Research Fellow, he visited the Universities of München and Düsseldorf several times between 1973 and 2001. He was a visiting professor or a visiting scientist at universities in Japan, Italy, USA, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Canada, Turkey, South Korea, China and Kuwait. Professor Albu is a honorary member of the Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy.

Professor Constantin Năstăsescu is the author or co-author of seven monographs, more than 150 research articles, and more than 25 monographs, textbooks and problem books for high school, undergraduate or graduate students. More than 1000 mathematicians have cited his work over 1800 times. He is an editorial board member of the following journals: Revue Roumaine de Mathématique Pures et Appliquées, Bulletin Mathématique de la Société des Sciences Mathématiques de Roumanie, Annals of the University of Craiova (Mathematics-Computer Science Series), Scientific Annals of the Ovidius University of Constanţa (Mathematics Series), Mathematica (Cluj), and the PUMP Journal of Undergraduate Research. His fields of research include category theory, graded ring theory, coalgebra theory, and Hopf algebras. He was the advisor of over twenty Ph.D. students. He has been a member of the Romanian Academy since 1993, a Doctor Honoris Causa of the Ovidius University of Constanţa and the University of Craiova, and a member of the algebra research group at the Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy. He was awarded the Simion Stoilow Prize for Mathematics of the Romanian Academy in 1975. He was a visiting professor or researcher at the Universities of Ferrara, Padova, Florence, Udine,

Aquilla, Rome (Italy), the Universities of Murcía, Granada, Almeria, Sevilla, Santiago de Compostella, Oviedo (Spain), the Universities of Antwerp, Brussels, Hasselt, Gent (Belgium), the University of Düsseldorf (Germany), the National Mexican University (Mexico), the University of Bethlehem (Palestinian Authority), the Kuwait University (Kuwait), the Henri Poincaré Institute, Paris, and the University of Lyon (France), and the University of Leeds (Great Britain).

The present volume publishes contributions from former students, past and present collaborators and friends, who have all dedicated the papers to Professors Albu and Năstăsescu on the occasion of their 80th birthdays.