

Invitation til reception

I anledning af Bernhelm Booß-Bavnbek's pensionering indbyder Institut for Natur, Systemer og Modeller (NSM) til afskedsforelæsning og efterfølgende reception

Onsdag d. 17. december 2014, kl. 13.00 i bygning 27.1, Lokale I



Bernhelm Booß-Bavnbek (IMFUFA, RUC)

Learning and teaching math: easy and hard. How?

After 55 years of learning and teaching mathematics, I'm looking forward to my first year without formal teaching obligations. On that occasion I would like to share some thoughts with the audience: I shall confront encouraging findings on human development and language acquisition (mostly C.S. Peirce and N. Chomsky) with rather sceptical views (mostly P.J. Davis and Y. Manin) to explain how it comes that learning and teaching math is easy and hard at the same time; why we in mathematics struggle both for product (content, saving-bank) and process (methods, projects); why the meaning of mathematical understanding is contextually confined, but the triumph of mathematical experience is to become transitional and context free. I shall illustrate the conflicts with examples from my work with elliptic boundary value problems, my teaching of algebra, geometry, analysis and statistic classes, and my supervising of student projects in mathematical modelling and math history.

kl. 14:00: Reception with gløgg, non-alcoholic drinks, and æbleskiver (as always with the year's last IMFUFA seminar).