

DAVID BORWEIN
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

David Borwein was born in Kaunas, Lithuania on March 24, 1924. He lived in South Africa from 1930 to 1948 and attended the University of Witwatersrand from which he obtained two bachelor's degrees, the first in Electrical Engineering and the second in Mathematics. At the end of his engineering studies in 1944, he served for a year in the Special Signals Services (i.e., Radar) of the South African armed forces.

Borwein did his graduate work at University College, London under the supervision of L.S. Bosanquet whose own supervisor was G.H. Hardy. His thesis title was "The Cesàro summability of integrals". In 1950 he was awarded a Ph. D. degree by the University of London, and in 1960 a D. Sc. degree by the same university. In 1959 he was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. From 1950 until 1963 Borwein was a lecturer at St Andrews University, Scotland. He came by invitation to the University of Western Ontario as a visiting Professor for a year in 1963 and stayed on permanently. He was head of the mathematics department at UWO from 1967 until 1989 when he was mandatorily retired.

Borwein now holds an Emeritus and Adjunct Professorship in the mathematics department and remains actively engaged in research. His main (but not exclusive) area of mathematical research has been, and continues to be, classical analysis, notably the summability theory of series and integrals. He has published over 125 papers, some co-authored with his sons Jonathan and Peter. Among the many Ph. D. students he has supervised are Bruce Shawyer, Peter Cass, Bruce Watson, Irv Robinson, Eddy Smet, John Sayre and Tom Markovich, who now hold (or have held) positions in Canadian universities. For a number of years Borwein was Advanced Problems editor of the *American Mathematical Monthly*, and he is currently a co-editor of *Analysis - International Journal of Analysis and its Applications*. He acts as a referee for a number of mathematical journals and as a reviewer for NSERC and NSF proposals. He has given talks at many universities and conferences, both in Canada and abroad. On invitation he visited and worked with colleagues a number of times at Tel-Aviv University and at Universität Ulm. He

has also worked at the Centre of Experimental and Constructive Mathematics (Simon Fraser University) for various periods—he is an associate member of CECM

Borwein has maintained an active interest in the Canadian Mathematical Society (previously Congress) ever since he came to Canada. He served on the Society's Board of Directors (previously Council) for the periods 1967–1975, 1977–1979 and 1985–1989, and on its Executive Committee for the periods 1969–1975 and 1985–1989. He was on its Research Committee from 1969 until 1976, serving as Chairman of that committee from 1969 until 1973. From 1973 until 1975 he was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, and he was its President from 1985 until 1987. In December 1996 the CMS presented him with its Distinguished Service Award “in recognition of contributions to mathematics in Canada and to the work of the Society”.

SERVICE ADDENDUM

YOUTH SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Two years of judging at Canada-Wide Science Fairs (Whitehorse 1995, North Bay 1996). Judge at the International Science and Engineering Fair in Hamilton (1995). Part of group escorting Team Canada to the ISEF in Tucson (1996), Louisville (1997, 2002), Fort Worth (1998), Philadelphia (1999), Detroit (2000), and San José (2001). Member of the YSF Scientific Advisory Committee which selected Team Canada for these ISEF's and also for the ones in Cleveland (2003) and Portland (2004).

INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD

Member of the Organizing Corporation for IMO 1995 – on the Finance Committee, and initially helped obtain funds from the Government of Ontario. Was a coordinator for the IMO 1995 competition at York University. Had previously been a member of the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad Committee.

INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS UNION

Member of the Canadian National Committee for IMU (1983–1986). Was organising secretary for the IMU meeting in St Andrews, Scotland in 1958.

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

At various times was elected to serve on the Academic Pension Board, Senate, Senate Budget and Finance Committee (chair for 2 years), and many other Senate and Faculty of Science committees. Served for a period on the Exucutive Committee of the UWO Retired Academics Group to deal with Pensions and Benefits. Co-ordinator of the UWO Alumni Bridge Club.

BROUGHDALE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Volunteer on our local community association.

MANDATORY RETIREMENT

Has given talks and appeared on TV and radio on the subject of mandatory

retirement.

Made a presentation, December 1992, to the Standing Committee on Administration of Justice of the Ontario Legislature in support of a private member's bill to remove a clause from the Ontario Human Rights Code which allows for discrimination of those aged 65 or more. The bill (which he had prompted a local MPP to introduce) had second reading approval, but was allowed to die when the parliamentary session ended and never reintroduced.

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Served for 3 years as one of 3 members of the MAA Committee which selects the winners of the Chauvenet Prize (for expository mathematical work).