FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE ISSUE

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March 20, 2008, marks the 70th birthday of the outstanding Russian scientist Sergei Petrovich Novikov. To celebrate this anniversary, on June 3, the Steklov Institute of Mathematics, where Novikov has been working for more than 40 years, organized “Novikov Day,” in which more than a hundred scientists from Moscow and other cities took part.

The Academic Council of the Steklov Institute of Mathematics is dedicating a special volume of *Proceedings of the Steklov Institute of Mathematics* to the anniversary, and the editorial board of *Uspekhi Matematicheskikh Nauk* (Russian Mathematical Surveys) is also publishing a special issue. The organizing committee proposed the students of Novikov, the participants of his famous seminar, and his colleagues, first of all those involved with the Steklov Institute of Mathematics and Moscow State University, to publish articles on subject fields close to the scientific interests of Novikov and to give talks at Novikov Day.

The scientific agenda of Novikov Day consisted of two parts: the morning session, with plenary lectures by Novikov’s colleagues (V.V. Kozlov, Yu.G. Reshetnyak, and Ya.G. Sinai) and students (B.A. Dubrovin and I.M. Krichever), and the afternoon session, where the participants worked in sections. The talks were mainly devoted to geometry, topology, mathematical physics, dynamical systems, and related problems.

Due to the amount of material, the organizing committee decided to issue two volumes of *Proceedings of the Steklov Institute of Mathematics* dedicated to Novikov’s anniversary. The first contains mainly papers by mathematicians from Novikov’s school: his students, students of his students, participants of his seminar, his closest colleagues Ya.V. Bazaikin, V.M. Buchstaber, A.E. Mironov, and M.I. Shtogrin (geometry); A.A. Gaifullin, T.E. Panov, A.V. Chernavskii, and E.V. Shchepin and K.E. Bauman (topology); I.A. Dynnikov, M.I. Monastyrskii and P.V. Sasorov, A.G. Sergeev, and O.K. Sheinman (mathematical physics and dynamical systems); and D.V. Millionshchikov, A.V. Zarelua, O.R. Musin, and A.I. Garber (related problems). The plenary lectures, which, as a rule, are of survey character, will be published in *Russian Mathematical Surveys*.