

# Educational Matters

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While four conference days of AMAST '93 (3rd International Conference on Algebraic Methodology and Software Technology, Enschede, 21-25 June 1993) were devoted to research, the first AMAST day provided a forum for educational matters emphasizing the mathematical education of software developers. I had the honour and pleasure to open the Education Day by a talk on *Some tentative thoughts on teaching computer science* in which I elaborated the statements and observations of my short note in the last issue of this column. Two sessions followed each of which started with an invited talk. The first speaker was Teodor Rus who presented and interpreted David Parnas' invited paper on *Mathematics of computation for (software and other) engineers*. (David Parnas could not attend the conference because of an unfortunate accident, I hope he is well and fully recovered meanwhile.) The morning session was moderated by Yuri Gurevich who managed to run and – whenever necessary – to provoke a lively discussion. In the afternoon session, Jacques Printz presented his invited paper on *Mathematical training for the software developers: a practical experience*, and István Németi moderated. He accentuated the discussion repeatedly by pointing out the role of logic in computer science.

I think it worthwhile and would like to make the contributions and the outcome of the Education Day known to a wider audience beyond AMAST. The first step is the publication of David Parnas' and Jacques Printz' papers in this column with the authors' friendly permission. In the following, the reader can find David Parnas' paper in full length and the introduction of Jacques Printz' paper (the rest follows in the next issue). The second step seems more difficult. Nevertheless, it is worth trying to summarize and recall the discussion at the Education Day. Because the tape-recording worked only partially, I would like to ask those who expressed their ideas and contributed to the discussion to write down their statements and to send them to me for the Educational Matters column in the next issue(s) of the Bulletin. Clearly, this call is not restricted to the participants of the Education Day. All comments and ideas concerning the mathematical education of software engineers and computing scientists are wellcome and should be sent to

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