



## CELEBRATING WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS

### CYPRA CECILIA KRIEGER DUNAIJ

1894-1974, Austrian Empire (now Poland) - Dunaij received her BA degree in 1924 and her MA degree in 1925 at the University of Toronto.

She remained at the University of Toronto to undertake research under the supervision of W. J. Webber. When she was awarded her doctorate in 1930



from the University of Toronto, Krieger became the third woman to be awarded a doctorate in Canada and the first to be awarded a doctorate in mathematics.

Krieger then spent a year at Göttingen University. Appointed as an Instructor at the University of Toronto in 1928, she was promoted to Lecturer on the award of her doctorate in 1930.

After officially retiring, Krieger continued teaching at the University of Toronto until her husband died in 1968. After this, she taught at Upper Canada College until her own death at the age of 80.

Krieger is best known for her English translation of Sierpinski's *Introduction to General Topology* (1934) and *General Topology* (1952). In the latter book she presented a 30 page appendix on the theory of infinite cardinals and ordinals. We should also mention her work for the Canadian Association of University Women. She strongly supported women having the chance to succeed in mathematics, but when asked what chance a woman had to become successful she replied:

“It depends upon the individual.”

The Canadian Mathematical Society honours Krieger's legacy with the Krieger-Nelson Prize which was inaugurated to recognize outstanding research by a female mathematician.

*Biography courtesy of The MacTutor History of Mathematics archive*