

From: Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com>
To: David Grosf <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Benoit Mandelbrot
Date: Sat, 02 Jul 2011 10:04:39 +0000

I was the first person he called to tell his , in his words , unfortunate news. he had a few months to live , but it would be without pain. He said he felt a great affinity to me because we were both outcasts and neither " were afraid of heights"

On Fri, Jul 1, 2011 at 9:29 PM, David Grosf <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I was talking today with Mouad Lamani, perhaps the last man to have met collegially with Benoit Mandelbrot. Mouad is a scientist who runs R&D at Menicon, a Japanese contact lens et al. company with whom Optiopia enjoys a good R&D collaboration, and Mouad is also the new dean of ISMANS, an elite French engineering school in Le Mans, France.

Thanks in part to Mouad's deanly efforts, there will be two endowed professorships to honor Benoit -- one at Yale and one at ISMANS (whose previous dean was an early, passionate 'disciple' and friend of Mandelbrot). I was wondering whether you might have suggestions for ISMANS (1) about whom to put on the selection committee for the first Mandelbrot Chair -- and this is at an engineering school (think: the petite MIT, with a special connection to automotive engineering and a future in biomaterials) and (2) about whom to select for the chair itself. Mandelbrot had such an unusual ambit of interests in pure and applied math, finance, visualization, and more -- I thought you might have good ideas -- and good intellectual taste -- to contribute to the selection process.

Whaddya say?

Best,
David

PS I'm all ears for stories about Benoit. I heard him give a seminar talk once, and of course struggled to digest Fractal Geometry of Nature. But I first learned about him in academic papers on stock prices I read while doing the options portfolio simulation modelling work at age 15 at Polytechnic Institute of NY, work that was guided by my brother's former physics teacher :-).

David Grosf
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