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## Benedict Gross

Dr. Benedict Gross received his PhD from Harvard University in 1978 under the supervision of John Tate. After holding faculty positions at Princeton University and Brown University, Gross became a tenured professor at Harvard in 1985 and remained there subsequently, as Dean of Harvard College from 2003 to 2007. He is known for his work in number theory, particularly the Gross-Zagier theorem on L-functions of elliptic curves.

Gross received Cole Prize in 1987. He was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1992 and as a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 2004. He was elected to the American Philosophical Society in 2017.

It is a pleasure for me to submit a short note in honors of S.-T. Yau's 70th birthday. I met Yau when he joined the faculty at Harvard, and we have been friends and colleagues for over 30 years. He is both a visionary and a powerful force in mathematics, as a research leader, as an editor of important journals, and as an organizer of countless meetings. On top

of this, Yau has devoted his amazing energy to the development of mathematics at all levels in China. Although his own work is in geometry and differential equations, he has been tremendously supportive of number theory, and this support has led to the impressive list of Chinese number theorists who are leaders in the field today. I don't know anyone else who has done this much to advance our subject.

Yau is also a devoted father—our sons Isaac and Michael are good friends, and lived together in Yau's apartment in Beijing for a year. Yau was so helpful to Isaac, not only in providing a place to stay but also in arranging a reentry visa. For that generosity alone, my wife Jill and I will be forever in his debt. Since the boys told us each very little of what they were up to, the only way we could piece things together was by comparing notes!

I remember Yau's moving speech in Jerusalem, when he won the Wolf Prize and compared Chinese and Jewish cultures. So, in my own tradition, I will wish him "biz hundert un tsvantsik yor".