

Seminar 2022

Math

The Place of Mathematical Logic in the 20th Century

American Mathematics: Mac Lane's Perspective

박우석

KAIST

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Abstract: Even though mathematical logic does have its place in the classification of mathematics, it is by no means clear what role it should play in mathematics. After all these years, there is still doubt as to whether mathematical logic is considered to be genuine mathematics by most mathematicians. Understanding this unfortunate situation is a thorny issue, which invites the invocation of the entire history of the classification of mathematics, science, and philosophy. In this paper, my modest aim is merely fathoming the place of mathematical logic in the history of 20th century American universities through Saunders Mac Lane's perspective. In as much as his life (or work) is uniquely multi-faceted, at least some useful springboards for promoting the fruitful dialogues between mathematicians, philosophers, and mathematical logicians could be secured from this discussion.



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