1107-52-312 **Karoly Bezdek*** (bezdek@math.ucalgary.ca), University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, AL T2N1N4, Canada, and **Muhammad Ali Khan**, University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta T2N1N4, Canada. *The covering index of convex bodies.*

Covering a convex body by its homothets is a classical notion in discrete geometry that has resulted in a number of interesting and long standing problems. Swanepoel [Mathematika 52 (2005), 47–52] introduced the covering parameter of a convex body as a means of quantifying its covering properties. In this talk, we introduce a close relative of the covering parameter called covering index, which turns out to have a number of nice properties. This is a joint work with Muhammad A. Khan (University of Calgary). (Received January 18, 2015)