

## PREFACE

During the spring of 1987, Brigham Young University held a special semester in nonlinear partial differential equations which attracted specialists from around the globe. One of the highlights was a conference held March 4–7 and attended by some 80 participants. The conference emphasized the theory of phase transitions, reaction-diffusion systems, and singular perturbations, although other related topics were also discussed. The list of speakers and their titles is included here as an indication of the scope of the conference.

In addition to the editors of this volume, the organizing committee consisted of Nicholas Alikakos, Gunduz Caginalp, John Chadam and James Serrin. Their efforts and advice, which contributed to the success of this event, are very much appreciated. Likewise, the office staff in the Department of Mathematics at Brigham Young University are to be commended for the efficient and helpful manner in which they provided logistical support.

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