

## PREFACE

It is our pleasure to introduce the proceedings of the Seventeenth International Conference on Geometry, Integrability and Quantization, which was held in Sts. Constantine and Elena, Varna, Bulgaria, between June 5-10, 2015.

The Conference provided an ideal setting for discussing recent developments in a wide variety of topics in Differential Geometry, Mathematical Physics, Harmonic Map Theory, Lie Geometry, Integrable Systems, Symplectic and Contact Geometry, Geometric Control, Partial Differential Equations and their Numerical Solutions, General Relativity, Quantum Theory. The seventeenth edition gathered over 70 participants from 25 different countries, which represents an overall participation record for this conference series. Among these participants, 65 presented their contributions (as lecturers, plenary talk speakers and other invited speakers). Several graduate students presented research posters.

Four distinguished speakers delivered Lecture Series, respectively: Dr. Metin Gürses from Bilkent University, Ankara (*Integrable Curves and Surfaces*), Dr. Guowu Meng from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (*Kepler Problem and Formally Real Jordan Algebras*), Dr. Jędrzej Śniatycki from University of Calgary, Canada (*Geometric Quantization*), and Dr. José Vargas (*The Kähler Calculus*). The above Lecture Courses were complemented by the Plenary Talks delivered by Dr. Eugenio Aulisa (*Error Analysis in an Iterative Algorithm for the Solution of the Regulator Equations for Distributed Parameter Systems*), Dr. Magdalena Toda (*New Advances in the Study of Generalized Willmore Surfaces*), and Dr. Abraham Ungar (*On the Geometry of Pseudo-Euclidean Spaces*) and more than 40 presentations by other participants.

We would like to thank all participants for their contributions to the Conference Program and Proceedings. Our special thanks go to Dr. Mariana Hadzhilazova for her devoted assistance in the overall organization of the conference and her help in preparing the volume. We would also like to thank the referees for their keen observations and timely reports. Many thanks go to the Bulgarian team of participants and organizers for their support and hospitality. This contributed to create a joyful atmosphere during the conference, and many interesting conversations during meals and refreshment breaks. In addition, the local excursion and social dinner represented two excellent occasions for all participants to interact and discuss their scientific contributions and future professional plans.

Warm thanks also go to the Bulgarian Academy of Science, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and to the Tokyo University of Science, for providing the necessary research framework to the organizers in order to make the conference possible.

We are looking forward to the Eighteenth International Conference on Geometry, Integrability and Quantization which will be held in June 3-8, 2016 at the same location. We hope that it will be as interesting and enjoyable as all of its previous editions.

*The Editors*