

## Preface

This is the volume of selected works of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Mathematical and Computational Biology - BIOMAT 2009. The conference was held at the campus of University of Brasilia, in Brasilia, DF, Brazil, from 01<sup>st</sup> August to 06<sup>th</sup> August 2009. Ten invited scientists have been talking in the Plenary Sessions as Keynote Speakers. Some of them have also been lecturing in tutorials and mini-courses which is a tradition of the BIOMAT Symposia series. There were about sixty contributed papers in technical sessions - oral and poster. As a rule, we have invited successful authors to resubmit their accepted papers for presentation during the conference, to members of the BIOMAT Consortium Editorial Board and referees ad Hoc nominated by this Board. We received about 130 works and a third reviewing of the paper is now seen as strictly necessary in order to restrict the acceptance level of the BIOMAT published works around 22% as is usually made since the foundation of the BIOMAT Consortium. The organizers have done their best to provide the excellent level of communication among the participants in an informal scientific atmosphere. We also stress the opportunity of exchanging professional feedback with experts and research students of different scientific education but the same interest on a specific area of scientific research. This is the spirit of the BIOMAT Consortium and the BIOMAT Symposia series. We continue the offer of participation in the tutorials and mini-courses to young research students. The motivation of interdisciplinary work in the future career of prospective scientists being a special mission of the BIOMAT Consortium. In the present publication we can find contributions in the fields of Biomathematics, Biological Physics and Computational Biology as well as the generic Mathematical Modelling of Biosystems. In order to enhance the feedback mentioned above, we are always trying to invite professionals with a very different formation for lecturing in tutorials and mini-courses. We are indebted to the Administrative Staff of two Brazilian Sponsoring agencies CAPES - Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel and CNPq - National Research Council. Their Directors and Authorized Representatives for their continuous belief in the BIOMAT Symposia series. We thank the Foundation for Research Support of S. Paulo State and the University of S. Paulo, School of Medicine, Brazil for some financial help during the organization of the past symposium (BIOMAT 2008). Special thanks are due to Felipe Mondaini and Leonardo Mondaini for their collaboration with the Organizing Committee of the BIOMAT

2009 in Brasilia as well as Luiz A. S. de Oliveira and his L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X expertise for his help to the editorial work.

The organization of a scientific conference on an academic venue like a university or a research institute, has the favourable consequence of the possibility of using the facilities of the host institution. We thank the University of Brasilia and the Dean for Graduate Courses and Research for her collaboration with the offer of the auditorium of the Faculty of Technology and its electronic facilities. We thank also the members of the Administrative Staff of this institute for their invaluable help. On behalf of the BIOMAT Consortium, a non-profit association of scientific researchers from Universities and Research Institutes on many countries, we congratulate all the authors and participants for another opportunity of joint scientific work during the BIOMAT 2009 Symposium.

Rubem P. Mondaini  
President of the BIOMAT Consortium

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