

Preface

The 38th Annual Congress of the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences, took place at California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Pasadena, during the period July 23 to 27, 2014. The event was a great occasion for scientists, engineers and artists of romanian descent and friends of Romania from all around the world to meet, and discuss their recent contributions.

All the contributions submitted to the congress have undergone a rigorous peer review process, based on a single blind reviewing, where the referee, of specialists in the area that fit each contribution, remains anonymous throughout the process.

The present volume contains only the contributions who have passed this peer review process and have been accepted for publication.

We are particularly grateful to the peer reviewers who gave generously their time to help make this volume a success responding to our requests promptly and professionally, in the very short time that they had available.

We would like to thank the authors of the papers included in this volume for their collaboration during the review process, accepting the anonymous referee's suggestions to improve their papers and also the authors whose contributions are not included in this volume for understanding that ARA will earn prestige primarily by the high level of its publications.

Many thanks go to Dr. Adrian Stoica, from NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, the General Chair of the 38th Annual ARA Congress Congress, for his kind collaboration.

Last, but not least, I want to thank Eugénio M. Rocha and João Pedro Lima Morais, from University of Aveiro, for their support in preparing the proceedings.

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