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Preface

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Preface

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The 14th *International Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science* was held in July, 19th – 26th, 2011 in Nancy, the historic capital of Lorraine and birthplace of Henri Poincaré. We were very honored that the President of the French Republic, Monsieur Nicolas Sarkozy, generously agreed his patronage.

The LMPS congresses represent the current state of the art and offer new perspectives in its fields. There were 900 registered participants from 56 different countries. They filled 115 sessions consisting of 391 individual talks (among them 6 plenary lectures and 49 invited lectures), 22 symposia (among them 4 special invited symposia), and 13 affiliated meetings and associated events such as 6 public talks—in all nearly 600 papers. These figures reflect the fact that LMPS is not only a place for scientific communication at the highest level, but also a forum for individual and collective research projects to reach a wide international audience.

Concerning the program, there were two innovations:

- (a) For the first time in the LMPS history, the Nancy congress had a special topic: *Logic and Science Facing the New Technologies*. It illuminated issues of major significance today: their integration in society. These questions were of great importance not only to LMPS participants, but to our professional and sponsoring partners likewise. Correspondingly, a section of the congress was entirely devoted to “Methodological and Philosophical Issues in Technology”. With 16 individual lectures (three invited) and two symposia this special topic made a grand entrance.
- (b) We put much emphasis on symposia in the “non-invited” part of the program. In addition to four symposia with invited speakers which we organized ourselves, and 13 affiliated symposia related to various topics of the congress, for which their respective organizers were responsible, we issued a call for contributed symposia in addition to the call for contributed papers, giving researchers the chance to apply as a group of up to 6 people for a short symposium on a selected topic. This call resulted in 18 contributed symposia, some of which were of exceptionally high quality.

This volume presents a selection of contributed papers. All sections of the congress ranging under the headings *General Philosophy of Science* are represented in this volume, as well as four sections of *Methodological and Philosophical Issues of Particular Sciences* (Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Economics). A first volume of contributed papers, covering topics in Logic, Philosophy of Mathematics and Cognitive Science, and Philosophy of Technology, appeared in the last issue of *Philosophia Scientia* (18-3), 2014. A selection of invited talks and plenary lectures are published under the title *Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science. Proceedings of the Fourteenth International Congress (Nancy)* by College Publications, London, 2014.

We are indebted to many persons and institutions for their integrated efforts to realize this meeting. First and foremost we would like to thank the members of our respective committees, the Local Organizing Committee, and the General Program Committee including its Senior Advisors and Advisors. They all have worked very hard, setting up an outstanding and attractive program and staging it in a comfortable surrounding that would make the congress a scientifically and socially enjoyable event. It has been a great pleasure to work with our colleagues and staff in these committees.

We also thank the Executive Committee of the DLMPs for its constant support and encouragement. Claude Debru (Académie des Sciences, Paris) helped us, amongst many other things, with his knowledge of French institutions, for which we are very grateful. Special thanks are also due to the University Nancy 2 and its Presidents, François Le Poutier and Martial Delignon, as well as to the Deans of Nancy’s Faculty of Law, Olivier Cachard and Éric Germain, who willingly let us occupy their splendid lecture halls and facilities. Without the generous financial support of the University of Lorraine,

of local, national and international organizations, this meeting would not have been possible. To all these partners we express our warm gratitude.

We are also very grateful to many colleagues who helped us in selecting the papers for both CLMPS volumes published as tome 18-3¹ and 19-1 of *Philosophia Scientiæ*, and contributed to their improvement through their remarks and suggestions

Last but not least we would like to thank Sandrine Avril, who worked on the L^AT_EX layout of this volume, and took care with her usual competence of a large part of the editorial process.

1. A problem occurred in the table of contents of volume 18(3): Prof. Hartley Slater's contribution, "Quine's Other Way Out", does not appear in the paper version. We are very sorry for this omission and wish to apologize to Prof. Slater. This mistake has been corrected in the online version of the journal.