PREFACE

The present issue of NOTE DI MATEMATICA contains part of the talks that were presented at the meeting *Simmetrie ed equazioni differenziali: aspetti teorici ed applicativi*, that has been held at the Dipartimento di Matematica of the Università di Lecce in February 5–7, 2004.

The aim of the meeting was to bring together people who use symmetries as an instrument of analysis of physical laws or of the mathematical objects that describe them. For this reason we invited geometers, mathematical physicists and physicists at our meeting. The results of the attempt to talk beyond the specificities of each sector are presented in this volume.

We thank the Dipartimento di Matematica and its Director Carlo Sempi for the financial and logistic support to the meeting.

We also thank our guests for having kindly accepted to participate to our meeting.

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