Dedication

Katalin Balla
1947-2005

Following a long-lasting serious ailment, our co-editor of this issue, Katalin Balla, died on June 25, 2005. Dr. Balla worked as Senior Scientist in the Department of Operations Research and Decision Systems of the Computer and Automation Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and, since June 2001, held the position of Professor in the Institute of Mathematics, University of Miskolc, Hungary. Already seriously ill, she successfully defended her dissertation on differential algebraic equations and their adjoints on June 2, 2005 and was awarded the Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences degree.

Katalin Balla graduated from the Moscow State University in 1970 with a degree in Mathematics. Following graduation she worked as a scientific assistant in the Center for Computational Technology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. From 1974 she was Corresponding Aspirant at the Saint Petersburg State University where she earned the degree of Candidate of Mathematical Sciences.

In 1980 she was appointed Head of the Department of Mathematical Physics, later Head of the Department of Mathematical Software Development. Following reorganization of the Institute in 1992, she was appointed Senior Scientist in the Department of Operations Research and Decision. Her dissertation for the degree of Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences was based on her research on a class of differential-algebraic equations and in particular the theory of adjoints. Sadly, the defense of her dissertation was her final public appearance.

In addition to her research, she was active in teaching. In 1994 she was appointed Reader at the Technical University of Budapest. She completed her habilitation in 1996. She continued to teach at the Corvinus University of Budapest and later at the University of Miskolc. She received numerous awards for excellence in teaching and research.

We celebrate her life for her numerous achievements, her dedication to the highest professional standards, and her generosity in sharing her insight and knowledge in her serious, friendly, unassuming ways.

Aurél Galántai
György Szeidl
Co-Guest Editors