

FOREWORD

PAOLO V. GIAQUINTA
(Chair of the Editorial Board)

This special issue is dedicated to the memory of Prof. Gaetano Giaquinta (1945-2016), a theoretical physicist and a corresponding member of the *Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti* (APP) since 2009. The issue has been guest edited by Prof. Alfio Grillo (Politecnico di Torino, Italy) and Prof. Salvatore Federico (The University of Calgary, Canada), who, in their Preface, recall the human and professional aspects of Prof. Giaquinta's personality. The issue further includes six invited papers, which were contributed by former colleagues and collaborators of Gaetano Giaquinta.

The *Classe di Scienze Fisiche, Matematiche e Naturali*, a division of APP, is honored of having had such a passionate scientist as an enthusiast member, who contributed significantly to the activities of this scientific society.

As for me, I just wish to pay my personal homage to a friend, with whom I also happened to share many cultural and professional interests. We all shall miss him deeply.

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