# Preface

**Tibor Csendes · Franco Giannessi · Saul Gass**

This special issue was meant to celebrate Professor Tamás Rapcsák on the occasion of his 60th birthday, and in recognition of his important contributions to optimization and related fields. During its preparation, we sadly learned that Tamás passed away on the 24th of March 2008. Thus, with great sorrow, we dedicate this issue to his memory, and in appreciation for the inspiration and friendship he gave to us all.

Dr. Rapcsák was the Scientific Advisor, Computer and Automation Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and full Professor of the Corvinus University of Budapest. His research results, which have appeared in international journals and in a number of books, have influenced greatly optimization researchers and others throughout the world. In addition, his scientific activities included the editorships of the *Journal of Global Optimization* and the *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*. Most importantly, throughout his career, Professor Rapcsák transmitted his great love for scientific research to all who had the opportunity to work and collaborate with him.

For this special issue, the guest editors invited co-authors and colleagues of Tamás Rapcsák to submit manuscripts related to his research work and which would be of interest to the optimization community at large.

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Special issue dedicated to Tamás Rapcsák.

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