Preface

**Nicolas Hadjisavvas · Siegfried Schaible ·
Jen-Chih Yao**

This special issue is dedicated to Professor Franco Giannessi, on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Prof. Giannessi was born on July 29, 1935. During the 45 years of his scientific carrier, Prof. Giannessi has made important contributions to a wide variety of topics in Optimization: for instance, Mathscinet contains more than 250 papers of various authors on vector variational inequalities, a notion introduced by Prof. Giannessi. Image space analysis and the closely related study of separation of sets are also two of the topics where he made important contributions very recently. Scalar variational inequalities and equilibrium problems, various aspects of duality, the connection between discrete and continuous optimization, semidifferentiable functions, theorems of the alternative, are some more of the areas that frequently attracted his attention.

Prof. Giannessi has had a profound impact in Mathematics and in particular in Optimization, not only as a researcher but also by spending a great amount of time and energy in various positions. As the director of the International School of Mathematics "Guido Stampacchia", he organized several important meetings in Erice, which were attended by a large part of the Optimization community. He published or edited many books which also contributed shaping the current status of Optimization. He is a member of the editorial board of many ISI Optimization journals (J. of Global Optimization, J. of Optimization Theory and Applications, Optimization, Optimization Letters, Set-Valued and Variational Analysis).

N. Hadjisavvas (✉)
Department of Product and Systems Design Engineering,
University of the Aegean, Hermoupolis, Syros 84100, Greece
e-mail: nhad@aegean.gr

S. Schaible
Department of Applied Mathematics, Chung Yuan Christian University, Chung-Li, 32023 Taiwan
e-mail: schaible2008@gmail.com

J.-C. Yao
Department of Applied Mathematics, National Sun Yat-Sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
e-mail: yaojc@math.nsysu.edu.tw

The editors of this issue would like to express their special thanks to the authors of the papers contained in this issue. The papers cover many of the topics to which Prof. Giannessi has contributed: Variational Analysis, Equilibrium Problems, Vector Variational Inequalities, Duality Theory, Image Space Analysis, Matrix Analysis etc.