Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to thank the Organizing Committee and the administration of Edinburgh University for their most gracious hospitality at the 15th Statistical Physics Conference. The meeting was by all measures very successful. In addition to good science—as exemplified, but certainly not exhausted, by the articles in this volume—there was also good camaraderie and much beautiful sunshine (dispelling all bad rumors about Scottish weather).

I am sure that all participants came away with a deepened appreciation for the beauty, utility, and vitality of our beloved statistical mechanics as well as with many pleasant personal memories of Scotland.

The 16th meeting in this series is scheduled to take place at Boston University in August 1986. We hope and expect that it will be a very good one. See you there.

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