

Preface

It is a great pleasure to dedicate this issue of the *Journal of Statistical Physics* (the largest ever) to Elliott Lieb, as part of the celebration of his seventieth birthday.

As is clear from the introductory notes by Freeman Dyson, Jakob Yngvason, and myself, Elliott is one of the prime contributors to mathematical physics and statistical mechanics in the past half century. It has been my privilege to be his friend and collaborator for much of this period. In addition to making major scientific contributions, singly or in collaborations, Elliott has been a leading spokesman for our field through the International Association of Mathematical Physics, of which he was twice the president, and through other forums. There is no question that Elliott has really made a difference to science and to the lives of many of its practitioners. There are indeed many who have enjoyed and benefited from Elliott's brilliance and from his humanistic concerns.

I hope, Elliott, that you will enjoy this volume and have a great time solving the many still unsolved problems of science and life. We all wish you and Christiane many many happy, healthy, and productive years.

Joel L. Lebowitz