

GM MARCH
23-27
2015

86th Annual Meeting
of the International Association
of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics



Dear Participants of GAMM2015,

welcome to the 86th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics. We are really honored to host this meeting in an area that is full of history and tradition. At the beginning, when the idea of having the GAMM Conference at Lecce was born (and I have to thank professor Peter Wriggers for it) I was seriously afraid by the amount of work that a conference like this requires. Indeed, we are a small University, and this is probably the largest event that we have ever organized, but I had the experience, as scientific secretary, of GAMM2003 in Abano Terme, and this convinced me to accept the challenge.

So, today we are here, in one of the most beautiful art cities in southern Italy. Lecce is known as the “Florence of the South,” due to its archaeological ruins of the Roman domination age, fuse with the richness of the Baroque era. The streets of the old town are a museum under the open sky, with its splendid Piazza del Duomo, the Cathedral and its tower bell, the Basilica of Santa Croce, the Roman theatre and the Castle of Charles V, where we will have the Opening Reception this evening.

Concerning the scientific program, this meeting follows the tradition of the previous ones. We have 8 plenary lectures, 10 minisymposia and 23 topical sections. The meeting also follows the tradition to host the Ludwig Prandtl Memorial Lecture, that will be given by Professor Keith Moffatt, and the Public Lecture that will be given by professor Francesco D’Andria. This year, within Section 6 – Material Modeling in Solid Mechanics - we have also a special session dedicated to Ted Belytschko, who recently passed away.

I would like to thank GAMM and its Program Committee for having chosen Lecce to hold this meeting, and for the support given to us through its President, Professor Wolfgang Ehlers and its Secretary, Professor Michael Kaliske.

A huge thank you to our collaborators, in particular to Daniela Dell’Anna and Carlo Tafuro, who have done most of the actual work with enormous dedication. Finally, we want to express our warm thanks to all organizers of the minisymposia and the sections for their valuable contributions to transform GAMM2015 into a successful meeting. With about 800 participants, and 641 lectures, we are sure that this meeting will be another success.

Last, but not least, since University shouldn’t be an ivory tower, but it should be a key for moral and cultural growth, you got a bag and a neckband labeled “made in prison”, since they are produced by held women, to give them a new chance for their life.

We wish you a fruitful participation in the meeting and a great time in Lecce and its surroundings.

Giorgio Zavarise
Michele Campiti
Domenico Laforgia