EDITORIAL

The series of *Workshops on Descriptional Complexity of Automata, Languages and Related Structures* started in 1999 in Magdeburg (Germany) and was continued in 2000 in London (Canada) in conjunction with the Fifth International Conference on Implementation and Application of Automata and the special event Half Century of Automata Theory. The *Third Workshop on Descriptional Complexity of Automata, Languages and Related Structures* took place in Vienna (Austria) July 20–22, 2001, in conjunction with the Fifth International Conference on *Developments of Formal Languages*. It was organized by the Working Group 1.2 Descriptional Complexity of the International Federation for Information Processing and by the Technical University of Vienna.

As for the preceding workshops in 1999 and 2000 the *Journal of Automata, Languages and Combinatorics* publishes a special issue containing the two invited lectures by Juraj Hromkovič and Alexander Meduna and 12 selected submissions to the *Third Workshop on Descriptional Complexity of Automata, Languages and Related Structures*.

We are grateful to the members of the Program Committee C. Calude (Auckland), E. Csuhaj-Varjú (Budapest), J. Dassow (Magdeburg, chair), J. Goldstine (University Park), H. Jürgensen (Potsdam, London/Canada), W. Kuich (Wien), G. Păun (Bucureşti), J.-E. Pin (Paris), K. Salomaa (Kingston), D. Wotschke (Frankfurt/Main, co-chair) and the referees involved in the selection process.

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