

Preface

The *International Workshop on Strong Magnetic Fields and Neutron Stars* has been held at La Habana, the pleasant capital of Cuba. The activities of the Workshop included conferences and round tables, an expressive part of this material being published in these Proceedings.

Invited speakers were R. Cardenas, M. Dillig, O. Espinosa, T. Gonzalez, A. Goyal, J. Horvath, M. Malheiro, H. Mosquera Cuesta, A. Pérez Martinez, H. Pérez Rojas, E. Rodríguez Querts, A. Reisenegger, A.E. Shabad, C.A.Z. Vasconcellos, and G.J. Qiao. The Organizing Committee thanks the invited speakers for the excellent presentations, responsible for the success of the event.

The Organizing Committee was faced with a forced last-minute absence of several participants and other invited speakers because of a very unfavorable international geopolitical and economical situation. In order to minimize the reflection of these aspects on these Proceedings, we opted to invite S. Chakrabarty, J.A. de Freitas Pacheco, N.K. Glendenning, G.F. Marranghello and B. Zhang to contribute to this issue. The Organizing Committee thanks also the nominated authors for kindly accepting this invitation.

The stimulating atmosphere of the Workshop favored discussions and interactions among the participants. And, as expected, and also confirmed in other occasions, Cuba and La Habana proved to be unique cultural experiences, far beyond the limits of the Workshop itself (adapted from J. Horvath's Summary on these Proceedings).

The organization of the Workshop was possible thanks to the financial support of the agencies *Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES)*, *Centro Latino-Americano de Física (CLAF)*, *Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq)*, *Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP)*. The Organizing Committee thanks also the support of the following institutions: *Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)*, *Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas (CBPF)*, *Instituto de Cibernética, Matemática y Física (ICIMAF)*, *Instituto de Física da Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (IFUFRGS)*, *Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS)*, *Univer-*

cidade do Estado de São Paulo (USP). We thank also the financial support of foreign countries that allowed in part the participation of some of the invited speakers. Finally we wish to thank Aurora, Zochil, Betty, Armando, Maria, Joanna and Eloísa for their support during the organizing activities of the Workshop.

The Editors