

## Welcome message from the organisers

Biomath is an established series of conferences devoted to recent research in life sciences based on applications of mathematics as well as mathematics applied to or motivated by biological studies. Biomath 2018 is specifically special as it takes place in the Year of Mathematical Biology. The year of Mathematical Biology 2018 (YMB2018) is a joint venture of the European Mathematical Society (EMS) and the European Society for Mathematical and Theoretical Biology (ESMTB). The main objectives are to celebrate the huge increase and importance of applications of mathematics to biology and life sciences over the last years and to foster the feedback loop between life sciences and mathematics for years to come. Biomath 2018 is proud to be one of the events associated with the YMB2018 and to contribute to the stated objectives.

Biomath 2018 is truly international as it has participants from 26 countries: Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America. An international and interdisciplinary meeting of this kind needs the support of many. We acknowledge the support of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the host of the conference. Specifically we need to mention the Institute of Mechanics, where the conference takes place, and the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics for the administrative and logistical support.

Biomath conference series has a strong emphasis on supporting and promoting young scientists. In this regard, we need to acknowledge the support provided to young scientists by the Bulgarian Fund for Scientific Research and the South African DST/NRF SARChI Chair in Mathematical Models and Methods in Bioengineering and Biosciences at University of Pretoria. We are grateful to all members of the Program and Organizing Committees as well as to the International Steering Committee for their active assistance.

Biomath organisers pay special attention to the publication of the presented scientific communications. Original papers based on the presentations in Biomath 2018 are invited for submission to the Conference Proceedings and the journals Biomath and Biomath Communications. We request the contribution of all participants for high quality publications.

Roumen Anguelov  
Chair: Organising Committee  
Svetoslav Markov  
Char: Programme Committee