

# Preface

The editing of the Brouwer correspondence has been a long journey with pleasant surprises and grave setbacks. It was, so to speak, the natural sequel to the publication of Brouwer's biography. When I embarked on the project, I did not foresee the problems and the adversities that lurked at the wayside—in spite of the warnings of our sorely missed colleague Karl Schumann. My retirement was largely filled by taking part in and supervising the project; although my role in the project can be viewed as a free donation to science and our national heritage, I was fortunate enough to obtain financial support for a number collaborators.

I have found goodwill and support from many sides, for which I am grateful indeed. Let me thank here the many institutions and persons that have enabled me to reach this journey's end.

Special thanks go to my wife Dokie, who, against her better judgement, bravely tolerated this seemingly interminable project.

Finally, the publisher Springer has kindly and efficiently supported me in the task of converting the texts into a book; in particular I am indebted to the help and encouragement of Karen Borthwick, Lauren Stoney and Donatas Akmanavičius.

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