

# Preface

This Festschrift volume mainly contains 22 refereed research papers and one extended abstract by close collaborators and friends of Pierpaolo Degano to celebrate him on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

The foreword of this volume includes a *laudatio* illustrating the distinguished career and the main scientific contributions by Pierpaolo and a portrait of him made by one of his closest friends. The following sections are dedicated to the scientific papers on the main research topics explored by Pierpaolo and still under his investigation.

Pierpaolo has worked on a large variety of topics including formal program semantics, concurrency theory, systems biology and security, and much more.

Each contribution was carefully reviewed by one or two readers. The editors would like to thank the several anonymous individuals for their assistance.

A preliminary version of this volume has been presented to Pierpaolo on June 19, 2015, during a one-day colloquium held in Pisa at the Department of Computer Science.

Five eminent scientists and also friends of Pierpaolo gave their invited talk on that occasion. We thank Ugo Montanari, Martín Abadi, Luca Cardelli, Joshua Guttman, and Flemming Nielson for having accepted our invitation. Their contributions can be found after the *laudatio* and the portrait of Pierpaolo.

We also would like to thank the Department of Computer Science and the University of Pisa for their logistic support in the organization of the Colloquium.

With this book we want to celebrate Pierpaolo's vision, beside his achievements, and also to witness the great esteem and favor he has in the academic community.

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Programming Languages with Applications to Biology  
and Security

Essays Dedicated to Pierpaolo Degano on the Occasion  
of His 65th Birthday

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