Preface

This volume contains contributions written by authors who have all worked in some capacity with Judith Bishop during her distinguished career. When Judith reached a certain milestone in her age (and we will leave the reader to figure out which one), we had the idea of putting together this book in recognition of her career and her accomplishments. We contacted various researchers and industry professionals who have worked with Judith and asked them if they would be willing to contribute material for this book. Their responses were overwhelmingly positive. Please note that we made a deliberate decision not to invite any colleagues from her current employer, Microsoft Research, to contribute material as this might have led to conflict of interest issues. However we made an exception for Tony Hey who is Judith’s superior at Microsoft Research; he graciously agreed to provide an Afterword for this volume. Since Tony represents the last place where Judith has worked, we thought that it would be symmetric to have a Foreword from someone at the first place where she worked. That someone is Wendy Hall from the University of Southampton. We are grateful to her too.

The material in this book spans a wide variety of research areas. The variety reflects the many research interests of Judith and her collaborators, and also reflects her transitions from one important research area to another over the course of her career. We have also included two contributions which are anything but Patterns (or Programming). We leave it to the reader to discover which ones these are. We hope you will find them to be as amusing as we did.

We thank every author for contributing their time and energy into helping this book come to fruition. We also thank Springer for publishing this volume and for providing their help.

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