This volume represents presentations given at the 81st annual meeting of the Psychometric Society in Asheville, North Carolina, during July 11–15, 2016. The meeting, organized by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, was one of the largest Psychometric Society meetings in the United States, both in terms of participants and number of presentations. It attracted 415 participants, with 204 papers being presented, along with 95 poster presentations, 3 pre-conference workshops, 3 keynote presentations, 2 invited presentations, 2 keynote-award presentations, a debate, 2 dissertation-award winners, 9 symposia, a trivial-pursuit lunch, and Psychometrika’s 80th anniversary celebration.

Since the 77th meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, Springer publishes the proceedings volume from the annual meeting of the Psychometric Society so as to allow presenters to quickly make their ideas available to the wider research community while still undergoing a thorough review process. The first four volumes of the meetings in Lincoln, Arnhem, Madison, and Beijing were received successfully, and we expect a successful reception of these proceedings too.

We asked authors to use their presentation at the meeting as the basis of their chapters, possibly extended with new ideas or additional information. The result is a selection of 36 state-of-the-art chapters addressing a diverse set of topics, including item response theory, equating, classical test theory, factor analysis, structural equation modeling, dual scaling, multidimensional scaling, power analysis, cognitive diagnostic models, and multilevel models.

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