Preface

This volume of Advanced Studies in Pure Mathematics is the proceedings of the Second MSJ-SI (Mathematical Society of Japan-Seasonal Institute)

"Arrangements of Hyperplanes" August 1–13, 2009 Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan.

The MSJ-SI is a major annual conference series of the Mathematical Society of Japan whose subject is selected by the Scientific Committee of the MSJ.

The subject of the Second MSJ-SI was arrangements of hyperplanes. The conference featured the following eight series of lectures by world'sleading experts:

> Arrangements and Topology: (3 lectures) by Toshitake Kohno (University of Tokyo, Japan)

Arrangements and Singularities: (3 lectures) by Kyoji Saito (Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe, Japan)

Arrangements and Computations: (3 lectures) by Hal Schenck (University of Illinois, USA)

Arrangements and Combinatorics: (3 lectures) by Richard Stanley (MIT, USA)

Arrangements and Statistics: (3 lectures) by Akimichi Takemura (University of Tokyo, Japan)

Arrangements, Hypergeometric Integrals and Physics: (3 lectures)

by Alexander Varchenko (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA)

Arrangements and Algebraic Geometry: (3 lectures) by Masahiko Yoshinaga (Kyoto University, Japan)

Arrangements (Introduction): (2 lectures) by Sergey Yuzvinsky (University of Oregon, USA).