

Foreword

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This Special Issue of the International Journal of Fracture contains selected papers presented at the IUTAM Symposium *Fracture Phenomena in Nature and Technology* that was held at the School of Engineering, University of Brescia, Italy, during the week of July 1–5, 2012. The symposium focused on innovative contributions in fracture research, interpreted broadly to include new engineering and structural mechanics treatments of damage development and crack growth, large-scale failure processes as exemplified by earthquake or landslide failures, ice shelf break-up, and hydraulic fracturing (natural, or for resource extraction or CO₂ sequestration), small-scale rupture phenomena in materials physics including inception of shear banding, void growth, adhesion and decohesion

in contact and friction, crystal dislocation processes, and atomic/electronic scale treatment of brittle crack tips and fundamental cohesive properties. The Special Issue manuscripts were limited to original work and were reviewed following the standard procedures of the Journal. The Organizing Committee is grateful to the IUTAM that fostered and supported the symposium, to the financial support from the EU (PIAP-GA-2011-286110-INTERCER2), to the University of Brescia (Italy) and to the University of Trento (Italy) that contributed greatly to the success of the Conference, to the Municipality of Brescia that welcomed the event and the participants.

Guest Editors

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