



EDITORIAL



This issue of *Advances in Group Theory and Applications* is dedicated to the memory of Prof. Dr. Francesco de Giovanni, former Editor-in-Chief of the journal and president of the association “AGTA — Advances in Group Theory and Applications”, who recently passed away on February 3rd, 2024. An obituary written by me, Maria De Falco and Carmela Musella has been published in volume 21 of

the Mediterranean Journal of Mathematics (he was a member of its editorial board) as article number 84, and you can find it here: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00009-024-02637-w>. With his untimely passing, he not only left an unfillable void in our hearts, but he also left many unaccomplished projects and dreams concerning the association, the journal and the future of group theory itself. But he had (and still has) many friends and students sharing those same dreams, and that are now trying to carry on his wills, so I’m pretty sure that these dreams will become reality one day or another. The association is now led by the former vice-president Prof. Dr. Francesco Catino (who was also one of his most beloved friends). As for me, I feel very lucky to have been with him since the creation of the association and the journal, and from him, I learned how to manage the many problems that arose from time to time. This is why I’m very obliged to the AGTA members for entrusting me with this new role of vice-president of AGTA and Editor-in-Chief of the journal. I will try my best to not disappoint them, but also to not disappoint him. Moreover, I wish to express my gratitude to all AGTA’s members that keep working offstage in order to carry on all its ac-

tivities: Mattia Brescia, Maria De Falco, Maria Ferrara, Maria Maddalena Miccoli, Carmen Musella, Alessio Russo and Paola Stefanelli (she is the new managing editor of the journal and she is already doing an amazing job). A very special mention should be given to Mariella Longobardi (Francesco's wife), who is the true depository of Francesco's dreams and wills and is tirelessly helping to preserve his legacy.

Concerning the journal, first I want to thank all the editors for the excellent job they did so far, and that they will certainly do in the future. I'm sure we will work in perfect synergy even more than before. Secondly, I want to announce the very recent addition of Pavel Shumyatsky to the editorial board of the journal. He is an expert in many group theoretical subjects, and in particular in profinite groups, and I'm positive he will contribute to the success of our journal even more.

Let's all work together to realize two of Francesco's dreams: make this journal (and the association) a reference point for all group theorists all around the world, and make group theory flourish again in these modern times (also through some of its applications).

Marco Trombetti