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FOREWORD

This special volume of Theory and Applications of Categories is dedicated to our colleague Professor Dominique Bourn on the occasion of his 60th birthday and in appreciation of his remarkable contribution to category theory and categorical algebra.[1]

Dominique has prepared his "thèse de 3ème cycle" (1973) on internal monads. He obtained his "Doctorat d'Etat" in 1990 in Paris XIII, with Jean Bénabou as Director; his thesis consists of four main papers on cohomology. Since the beginning of his research activity, Dominique has been actively involved in the stimulating environment of the "Theory and Applications of Categories" group active in Paris and Amiens initiated by Charles Ehresmann and Andrée (Bastiani-)Ehresmann. He was Assistant in Lille from 1973 to 1976 and "Maître de Conférences" in Amiens from 1977 to 1993, where, beginning from 1984, he was in charge of the direction of the TAC research team. Since 1993, he is Professor at the Université du Littoral in Calais-Dunkerque. At this young university, he created the pure mathematics laboratory, organized several SIC (Séminaire Itinérant de Catégories) and PSSL (Peripatetic Seminar on Sheaves and Logic) meetings and, in June 2008, the International Category Theory Conference.

We want to express our admiration to Dominique for his beautiful and highly original ideas and results, including his approach to cohomology theories, higher-dimensional category theory and n-categorification, his concept of protomodularity, a cascade of other new concepts and results involving what he calls the fibration of points, non-abelian versions of classical homological lemmas in homological categories, and many more expressed in his 76 publications listed below.

We thank the editors of Theory and Applications of Categories, and especially the Managing Editor Bob Rosebrugh, for the opportunity to prepare this volume.

The Guest Editors:
A.C. Ehresmann, G. Janelidze, J. Rosický, W. Tholen and E.M. Vitale

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[1]The present volume of TAC follows an International Conference organized in October 2008 at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium in Brussels to celebrate Dominique Bourn and Francis Borceux 60th birthday. A special volume of the Cahiers de Topologie et Géom. Diff. Catégoriques is devoted to Francis Borceux.

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