

Preface

This volume contains the invited and contributed papers presented at the 14th Conference on Theoretical Nuclear Physics in Italy held in Cortona, Italy, from 29–31 October, 2013. The meeting was held at the *Palazzone*, an elegant Renaissance Villa, commissioned by the Cardinal Silvio Passerini (1469–1529), Bishop of Cortona, and presently owned by the *Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa*.

The aim of this biennial Conference is to bring together Italian theorists working in various fields of nuclear physics to discuss their latest results and confront their points of view in a lively and informal way. This offers the opportunity to stimulate new ideas and promote collaborations between different research groups.

The Conference was attended by 46 participants, coming from 13 Italian Universities and 11 Laboratories and *Sezioni of the Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare* – INFN. The program of the conference, prepared by the Organizing Committee (Ignazio Bombaci, Aldo Covello, Laura Elisa Marcucci and Sergio Rosati) focused on the following main topics:

- (i) Few-Nucleon Systems
- (ii) Nuclear Structure
- (iii) Nuclear Matter and Nuclear Dynamics
- (iv) Relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions and Quark-Gluon Plasma
- (v) Nuclear Astrophysics
- (vi) Nuclear Physics with Electroweak Probes
- (vii) Structure of Hadrons and Hadronic Matter.

In the last session of the Conference there were two invited review talks related to experimental activities of great current interest. Giacomo De Angelis from the Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro spoke about the INFN SPES radioactive ion beam project. Sara Pirrone, INFN Sezione di Catania, gave a talk on the symmetry energy and isospin physics with the CHIMERA detector. Finally, Mauro Taiuti (Università di Genova), National Coordinator of the INFN-CSN3 (Nuclear Physics Experiments), reported on the present status and future challenges of experimental nuclear physics in Italy. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of INFN who helped make the conference possible.

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