Preface

The 9th International Conference on Differential Geometry and Applications belongs to a series of meetings organized by Czech universities each three years since 1980. The conference was organized by Charles University in Prague, Mathematical Institute of Academy of Sciences, Masaryk University in Brno, and Palacký University in Olomouc. The members of the Program Committee were O. Kowalski, D. Krupka amd J. Slovák. The organizing committee included J. Bureš, chairman; J. Vanžura, L. Krump and P. Somberg.

The program of the Conference consisted of three half-day plenary sessions, and six half-day sessions in three sections. There were sections A: Riemannian geometry and submanifolds (chairman O. Kowalski), B: Geometric structures (chairman J. Slovák) and C: Variational analysis and geometric methods in physics (chairman D. Krupka). In addition, poster session was organized.

We believe that the meeting continued the tradition of enjoyable and creative atmosphere which was established during the previous conferences in the series. As usual some cultural and social events took place. The Conference also hosted many distinguished editors of the journal "Differential Geometry and its Applications" and a meeting of the Editorial Board was organized on this occasion.

The papers presented in the present volume are based on the lectures presented at the Conference. They cover a quite wide range of the topics and we have organized the volume in five parts according to the major subjects. The list of participants is included too.

The editors would like to use this opportunity to thank to all participants who took part in the meeting and in particular to those who have also contributed to this Proceedings.

The Editors