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PREFACE

The International Symposium "Lepton and hadron physics at meson-factories" took place October 13-15, 2013 at the University of Messina, in Messina on Sicily. It gathered 84 researchers from various laboratories all over the world working at the precision frontier, i.e. performing or preparing high-precision experiments with large statistics aimed at tests of the Standard Model, searches for New Physics effects and studies of hadron structure.

Thirty talks presented at the Symposium covered a large range of subjects in the field. The intriguing problem of the muon anomalous magnetic moment, where a 3.5σ discrepancy is observed between the BNL measurement and theoretical predictions in the Standard Model, remains one of the few places hinting at New Physics. It is therefore not surprising that it was discussed in many talks.In addition to two new measurements of the muon anomaly planned at Fermilab and JPARC, there are new analyses from practically all e^+e^- colliders operated today, i.e. DAFNE in Frascati, VEPP-2000 in Novosibirsk and BEPC in Beijing as well as from BaBar and Belle that already stopped data taking. There are many results in meson and baryon spectroscopy from MAMI and ELSA as well as from BESIII and Belle, in particular on obviously exotic charged states in both charmonium and bottomonium sectors.

Lively discussions at the sessions continued in the restaurant and clearly showed that low-energy high-precision measurements can successfully provide important information complementary to that coming from the high-energy frontier experiments at LHC. In close future one can expect many new interesting results on η and η' mesons, R measurements, studies of exotic states. Even more important is the fact that they will be obtained by young researchers, well represented among the speakers and in the audience.

Giorgio Giardina
Simon Eidelman
Graziano Venanzoni
Giuseppe Mandaglio

Chairmen and Editors
of the Internationa Symposium LHPMF2013