FOREWORD

The One-day Workshop on Spatial-temporal Models in Epidemiology and Health was held in Lisbon, Portugal, on June 20th, 2014. It was organized by the Centro de Estatística e Aplicações da Universidade de Lisboa (CEAUL), under the ambit of the FCT research projects: PTDC/MAT/118335/2010 and PEst-OE/MAT/UI0006/2014. The workshop aimed (i) to bring together researchers who work in epidemiology and health sciences; (ii) to promote a fruitful discussion on the role of statistical methods, such as time series analysis and spatial statistics.

Due to the proliferation of several studies involving data sets that are both spatially and temporally indexed, spatial-temporal modeling has received an increasing attention in the last few years. Spatial-temporal data are usually related to applied areas, such as epidemiology and health sciences. Six invited speakers presented their methodological advancements in those areas with a heavy emphasis on applications, whereas a poster session with contributed papers complemented the scientific program of the workshop.

This special issue of *REVSTAT — Statistical Journal* consists of peer-refereed papers generated from the research work presented at the workshop. This collection of papers reflects the stimulating research in the area of Epidemiology and Health Statistics, covering a wide range of topics, such as Spatio-temporal detection of influenza outbreaks, Assessing the evolution of territorial disparities in health, Space-time disease mapping, Bayesian projections, Longitudinal dynamic models and Estimating the long-term health effects of air pollution.

We would like to to thank all authors for their contributions and all the anonymous reviewers who helped to prepare this special issue. Furthermore, we are grateful to the Editor-in-Chief of *REVSTAT — Statistical Journal* for agreeing to publish this special issue, as well as to all members of the scientific and organizing committees who worked to make the workshop a very interesting event for discussing Spatial-temporal Models in Epidemiology and Health.

Giovani Loiola da Silva
CEAUL & Dep. Mathematics-IST
Universidade de Lisboa
giovani.silva@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

Maria Antónia Amaral Turkman
CEAUL & Faculdade de Ciências
Universidade de Lisboa
maturkman@fc.ul.pt