Editor's Notes

This issue brings to a close my term as Editor of the SIGMOD RECORD. Looking back over the past four years I'm quite proud of the job that we, the Editorial Board, have done in producing a quarterly publication of high quality, breadth, and interest.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have contributed to the success and growth of the RECORD during this time. First of all, the Associate Editors, both current and former deserve the credit for taking time out of their busy schedules to encourage and cajole their equally busy colleagues to submit articles for their respective sections. The list of authors who have contributed articles to the SIGMOD Record over these four years contains many of the acknowledged and emerging leaders of the database field. These articles have helped further establish the RECORD as a high-visibility platform for reaching information systems researchers across the world.

While the editors and authors are acknowledged explicitly in every issue, there are a number of people who work behind the scenes to make things happen. These include all of the graduate students and faculty from Maryland, OGI, Berkeley, and elsewhere who have served as reviewers for submitted articles. SIGMOD RECORD remains fairly selective in terms of these articles, publishing only about 1 in 3. Also, the production people at ACM, formerly Heather Lovell and now Lisette Burgos, have done a great job of actually getting the journal printed and distributed to our 3000+ members. Heather was also instrumental in the long-overdue development of a new look for the RECORD.

Alex Labrinidis deserves special mention for his work on the Web Edition. He designed the pages and continually updates and improves them, and puts more time into this than he probably cares to admit. Other people who are playing a key role in improving our electronic presence include Alberto Mendelzon and Michael Ley.

Finally, I'd like to be one of the first to recognize in print, the truly fantastic job that Rick Snodgrass has done as Chair of SIGMOD. I continue to be amazed at the energy that Rick puts into this job and the tremendous results he has been able to achieve in his short time as Chair. While his contributions to SIGMOD have been numerous, I am particularly appreciative of the active role he has taken in the promotion and improvement of the SIGMOD RECORD. The results of his efforts are apparent in every issue.

In summary, to paraphrase Jeff Naughton's speech at the most recent SIGMOD conference, it has been a great honor to have the chance to serve in this capacity and I wish many of you that same honor in the future. I'm pleased to say that the next person who has agreed to accept this honor is Ling Liu of Georgia Tech. Ling has served as Associate Editor of the RECORD for the past four years, and has played a pivotal role in terms of coordinating the reviewing process and managing the "Reports" section of the journal. I'm confident that Ling will do a fantastic job and I encourage all of you to assist her in her new role. I look forward to the continued growth and enhancement of SIGMOD in general and the SIGMOD RECORD in particular.

Michael Franklin
October, 2000