

## Editor's Notes

Welcome to the first issue of year 2003. I am pleased to present you eight research papers in the Articles section, two workshop and conference reports in the Reports section, and contributions from five special feature columns, including the Distinguished Database Profiles column, the Influential Papers column, the Research Centers column, the special column for ACM Transactions on database Systems (TODS), and the Call for Book Reviews prepared by Karl Aberer, the associate editor in charge of the Book Reviews column.

- The first article is contributed by Richard Snodgrass, the Editor-in-Chief of ACM TODS. Rick summarizes a number of ways that TODS serves the readers, authors, and reviewers through its Web presence, including journal information, article citation and dissemination, manuscript submission and reviewing, and the use of the ACM portal.
- The *Articles* section entertains you with articles on advanced database management issues, such as Performing Joins without Decompression in a Compressed Database System, a functional approach to modeling the temporal evolution of thematic map contents, formal semantics and efficient processing algorithms for Xpath queries, a graphical query language for mobile information systems, multi-paradigm query processing in multimedia database, quality of service specification in video databases, Integrating XML using ANSI SQL Hierarchical Processing, data mining and logical database tuning.
- The *Book Reviews* section editor Karl Aberer prepares a call for contributions to solicit book reviews from the readers and the SIGMOD community at large.
- The *Distinguished Database Profiles* column editor Marianne Winslett shares with us an interesting interview with Dr. Jim Gray, who won the 1998 Turing award for his contributions to computer science in general and transaction processing in particular. Jim shared with us his insights on a number of issues, including
- The *Influential Papers* column editor Ken Ross presents us with two contributions, one comments on a paper by Noga Alon et.al published in ACM Symposium on the Theory of Computing, and the other comments on a PODS 98 paper by W. Hou et.al. on Statistical Estimator for Relational Algebra Expressions.
- The *Research Centers* column presents an article summarizing database research at University of Texas Arlington.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all people who have contributed in one way or another in the last two years (2001 - 2002). First, I would like to give my sincere appreciation to the associate editors and the authors who have made contributions since 2001 for their high quality work. Second, I would like to express my special thanks to the following guest editors for their hard work in putting together an excellent special section in year 2002. My thanks are also due to the following list of reviewers who have helped reviewing articles in the past two years.

### **Special Thanks to Guest Editors**

- Robert A. Meersman and Amit Sheth for their special issue section on Semantic Web and Data Management, in December 2002.
- Asuman Dogac for her special issue section on Data Management Issues in Electronic Commerce, in March 2002.
- Daniel Barbara for the special issue section on Data Mining for Intrusion Detection and Threat Analysis, in December, 2001.
- Karl Aberer for the special issue section on Advanced XML Data Processing, in September, 2001.

### **Special Thanks to Reviewers**

- Gilbert Babin, David Buttler, Keke Chen, Avigdor Gal, Bugra Gedik, Wei Han, Lakshmish Ramaswamy, Shankar Pal, Henrique Paques, Calton Pu, Duncan Ruiz, Michael Rys, Dan Suci, Bernhard Thalheim, Wei Tang, Florian Waas, Tong Zhou

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