

Chair's Message

This issue marks the beginning of the election process for SIGMOD. Our term as SIGMOD officers will come to an end in July 2005 and a new set of officers will take over. We will have election for fill these positions in a few months. This process started last September with the selection of a Nominating Committee, who then went on to identify and invite candidates for each of the positions. The nominating committee was headed by Michael Franklin (UC Berkeley) and consisted of Hank Korth (Lehigh University), Beng Chin Ooi (National University of Singapore), Timos Sellis (National Technical University of Athens), and me. The Committee invited the following colleagues to be candidates for the various positions and they have accepted (in alphabetical order for each positions):

For Chair:

Ahmed Elmagarmid (Purdue University)
Raghu Ramakrishnan (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

Vice-Chair:

Yannis Ioannidis (University of Athens)
Krithi Ramamritham (Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay)

Secretary/Treasurer:

Mary Fernandez (AT&T Labs-Research)
Louiqa Raschid (University of Maryland, College Park)

I am sure you will agree that SIGMOD, once again, has a very strong slate of officer candidates. You'll find their position statements and biographical information in this issue of *SIGMOD Record*. Please study these and please participate in the election by voting when you receive the notice from ACM Headquarters.

By the time you read this, the program for the 2005 SIGMOD/PODS Program should have been announced. Yelena Yesha and Nabil Adam and their organizational team have been working all year long to put the various parts of the event into place. Jennifer Widom and Foto Afrati have been busy with the SIGMOD and PODS technical programs, respectively. This year we again have a record number of submissions and a number of initiatives are being tried that, we hope, will improve both the technical program and the review process. I hope you will plan to attend this year's event in Baltimore in mid-June.

This issue of SIGMOD Record marks the hand-over of editorial duties from Ling Liu to Mario Nascimento. Ling has done a wonderful job over the last four years and deserves our thanks. Mario has very big shoes to fill, and I have no doubt that he will further improve an already high quality magazine.

M. Tamer Özsu
February, 2005