

## Foreword

The 2001 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data was held May 22-24, 2001, in Santa Barbara, California. SIGMOD conference is the major forum for database researchers, practitioners, developers, and users to present their work and discuss critical issues and views on practical leading-edge database technology, applications, and techniques. It is also used as a means for the community to confront the database researchers and practitioners with problems for data management and applications of the new era, such as e-commerce, digital libraries, and organization knowledge management. The conference is sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and its Special Interest Group on Management of Data (SIGMOD). As in previous years, two days of the conference overlapped with the Symposium on Principles of Database Systems (PODS.)

This year, acceptance in the conference proceedings was overwhelmingly competitive. From the 293 submissions to the research program, the program committee selected 44 papers for inclusion into the proceedings. The unexpected high number of submissions created a very heavy load for the program committee members; each had to review more than 20 submissions! Needless to say, to accept only 44 papers we were forced to reject many high quality papers. We would like to thank all the authors for submitting to SIGMOD. In addition, for the first time this year SIGMOD experimented with the use of double-blind reviewing, where the identities of the authors were withheld from the reviewers. All reviewers felt positively about this process, although we recognize that it made writing a little more difficult for the authors.

In addition to the research program, the conference featured an excellent industrial program, thought provoking panels, illuminating tutorials, and 21 software prototype demonstrations.

Guy Lohman chaired an industrial program committee that assembled the strong industrial program, and Mike Franklin came up with a very interesting and diverse demonstrations program. Gerhard Weikum solicited and selected the tutorials, while Phil Bernstein organized the panels. We are indebted to them for the excellent work, cooperation and result.

We are extremely thankful to the team from the Knowledge and Database Systems Laboratory of the National Technical University of Athens for hosting the site that handled the submission, distribution, and reviewing of the papers. Special thanks go to Panayiotis Xeros, Theodore Dalamanas, Spiros Skiadopoulos and George Adamopoulos for keeping the site up and working throughout the reviewing period. Thanks are also due to Mario Espinoza at UCI for his help with the preparation of the proceedings.

The conference would not have been a success without help from so many people. Ed Chang organized and planned the local arrangements. Dimitrios Gunopoulos served as publicity chair, while Xiaoyang Sean Wang acted as the webmaster. Sunil Prabhakar was in charge of finances. Mei-Ling Liu ensured the successful registration. As corporate sponsor's chair, Ambuj Singh, successfully raised enough support to keep our registration fees low. James Frew ensured the successful operation of demos by serving as our local demo chair. Mario A. Nascimento was in charge of the undergraduate scholarship program.

Jianwen Su — General Chair

Timos Sellis — Program Chair

Sharad Mehrotra — Proceedings Chair

Walid Aref — Electronic Proceedings Chair