Building on a firm foundation

*IEEE Software* has rapidly become a leading magazine for the researcher, developer, and technologist of software systems through the enthusiastic hard work of its founding editor-in-chief, Bruce Shriver. It will be a challenge to sustain the tone, vision, and quality of articles established by Bruce and the Computer Society staff during the next two years of my appointment. It is a challenge that I am eager to accept, and I look forward to your continued support of *IEEE Software*.

On behalf of the Computer Society, and particular the readers of *IEEE Software*, I want to thank Bruce for a job well done, and wish him continued success as he begins another great project as EIC of *Computer*.

I also want to thank the following editorial board members who have worked long and hard with Bruce to produce the highest quality results:

- Dennis Allison, lecturer, Stanford University; Barry Boehm, chief scientist, TRW Defense Systems Group; Dick Eckhouse, vice president, Moco, Inc.; Michael Evangelist, MCC; Susan Gerhart, MCC; William McKeeman, faculty chairman and professor, School of Information Technology, Wang Institute of Graduate Studies; Wiley McKinzie, director, School of Computer Science, Rochester Institute of Technology; John Musa, software quality supervisor, AT&T Bell Laboratories; Robert Poston, president, Programming Environments, Inc.; and Mary Shaw, chief scientist, Software Engineering Institute.

Many of these same people have agreed to continue making contributions to *IEEE Software* as we come some new faces (see pp. 6–7 for an introduction to the board). I am indeed privileged to be able to work with this outstanding board:

- Dennis Allison; Barry Boehm; Susan Gerhart; Michael Lutz, manager, Software Systems, GCA Corp.; William McKeeman; John Musa; Paul Oman, professor, University of Idaho; Robert Poston; Sorel Reisman, professor, California State University at Fullerton; Mary Shaw; and Vincent Shen, senior technical staff member, MCC.

State of the magazine. *IEEE Software* is still in its infancy even though it has the second largest circulation of any Computer Society magazine. We have established an image of a high-quality, readable, up-to-date, and technically correct publication.

Our review process is extremely demanding, yet fair and open to new ideas. The "time to market" is very tight and is one of the reasons we can get the latest information to you despite our bimonthly schedule.

The Computer Society publications staff works long and hard to produce a quality publication in a very short time between receipt of a manuscript and its publication.

This process is made even more demanding by the author's involvement with the editing and proofing.

My own personal agenda is to continue to accept, review, and publish quality manuscripts on all topics of interest to software developers, researchers, and professionals in related fields. (Legal issues, for example, affect our profession in many ways.)

I am open to suggestions for new ways to serve the Computer Society through special articles, special issues, participation in conference promotion (where *IEEE Software* can help distribute results more widely), and in ways that perhaps have not been tried before. So, if you have suggestions or ideas for improvements, please contact me on CNet (lewis@oregon-state) or on Commail+ (t.lewis).

My work is going to be made much easier and response to your inquiries will be expedited by my editorial administrator, June Martin. She can be reached at OSU, at (503) 754-2744 or on Commail+ (j.martin). In addition, I thank the OSU College of Science and Research office for their support of the editor-in-chief and the editorial administrator.

**Getting involved.** You can participate in the continued growth and success of *IEEE Software*.

The most obvious way is to become a reviewer. At first glance reviewing seems like a thankless job, but consider this: A reviewer receives papers much sooner than anyone else, so you can be on top of your area of specialty. Also, a reviewer can influence the work of the best people in the business because authors see reviewers' comments to contemplate them and to possibly alter their approach. Finally, reviewers provide a valuable service to the software community and are recognized by their colleagues for their contribution. (We print the reviewers' names annually, and are happy to recognize this contribution by writing letters to managers, deans, and so on.)

Other opportunities to participate abound: Our departments look for outstanding software reviews, and the letters department is your forum on articles, printed in hopes of encouraging an exchange of ideas among readers and authors.

I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities.

Ted Lewis
Editor-in-Chief

Ted G. Lewis is a professor of computer science at Oregon State University. He is the coinventor of the Tausworthe–Lewis–Payne algorithm (used extensively in cryptography), and the developer of the first retargetable microprogramming language system for implementing efficient microprograms. Lewis has published extensively on software engineering, distributed operating systems, and computer organization and architecture. He has written several books on personal computers, software engineering, and Pascal.