Preface

CBMS'97 is the tenth conference in the series concerning the Computer-Based Medical Systems. We are very proud that the jubilee 10th anniversary of CBMS conferences is celebrated in Maribor, Slovenia, especially because this is the first CBMS conference ever organized outside the United States. The conference was organized jointly by the University of Maribor, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and the Adolf Drolc Health Centre, Maribor.

Seventy-two high quality papers from twenty-three countries on five continents were received as a response to the call for papers for the main session and many more for the workshops and the student paper contest. All papers were reviewed by at least three reviewers and, finally after hard work by the whole programming committee, fifty papers were selected to be published in the proceedings and presented orally during the conference. The papers are organized into sections:

- Knowledge based systems
- Image processing and analysis
- Information systems
- Cardiovascular technologies
- Signal processing
- Medical system reliability and safety
- Software development processes, methodologies and tools
- Prosthetic devices
- Other

In addition to the mainstream of oral papers and a poster session, three workshops were arranged: Deus ex Machina; Computer Aided Education in Medicine, and Health Cards. To enable students to present their work, a Student Paper Contest was organized, providing the ten best students an opportunity to present and discuss their work with senior colleagues.
To honor the best presentations and best papers, the programming committee decided to present awards to the three best papers, the three best posters and the three best student presentations. In addition, the extended versions of ten overall best papers will be published in the internationally recognised Journal of Medical Systems.

Many people have contributed to the success of CBMS'97. We would like to extend our thanks to the steering committee, organizing committee, programming committee, reviewers, and all volunteers offering their time and energy to support the success of the conference. In addition, we would like to thank the IEEE Computer Society for selecting Maribor and Slovenia as the meeting place and for cosponsoring the conference. And last, but not least, we would like to acknowledge all cooperative supporters, especially the Government of Slovenia, for their donations.

Finally we would like to wish all participants a good stay in Maribor and Slovenia, and that they enjoy the excellent professional and social program.

Dr. Peter Kokol
General Chair, CBMS'97

Dr. Bruno Stiglic
Programming Committee Chair, CBMS'97