Preface

Welcome to the Eleventh Annual IEEE Symposium on Computer-Based Medical Systems. This symposium has been sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society, the IEEE Computational Society for Medicine, the IEEE South Plains Chapter, and the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE). We are extremely grateful to Dr. Donald Harrigan, President of Texas Tech University (TTU), Dr. Jorge Aunon, Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. David Smith, President of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC), and Dr. Joel Kupersmith, Dean of the School of Medicine, TTUHSC. It is very gratifying to see the joint venture between the Radiology Department at TTUHSC and the College of Engineering at TTU to bring about this symposium. Also, a special thanks to Dr. Sunanda Mitra, Chair of the Steering Committee, for her assistance in many areas.

We have an excellent assortment of papers from the United States, North America, Asia, Europe, and Africa, covering a number of topics in medical computing. We would like to thank Dr. Juan M. Taveras for delivering the keynote address. We wish to offer a special thank you to our invited guest speakers: Dr. Edward Dougherty, Dr. Samuel J. Dwyer, Dr. Murray H. Loew, Dr. Jack Sklansky, Dr. Joseph Tan, and Dr. George Thoma. We are delighted to have a number of contributed papers in numerous areas including image/signal analysis, computer-aided system, knowledge-based system, medical database, system architecture, software development/methodology and tools, medical informatics/decision support, quality assurance/management, device, and telemedicine.

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and long hours put in by the symposium committee. Our special thanks to Dr. Sunanda Mitra for her advice and support, and to Dr. Bharti Temkin for her efforts in fund-raising. Mr. Tim Whetstine deserves sincere gratitude from the program committee for preparing the brochures, budget and mailing, and Ms. Sandi Willingham for handling the hotel reservations, conference registration and mailing. Also, a special thank you to Ms. Penny Storms for making this proceeding possible.

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