Program Co-Chairs’ Message

These proceedings contain the papers, panel summaries and events of the Cooperative and Interoperable Information Systems Conference (CoopIS ’96). A total of sixty two papers were submitted with authors coming from 20 countries. Each of the papers were read by at least three reviewers and the final selection of 22 papers was made at a Program Committee Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

We feel that we were able to select papers of very high quality that should create a lot of interest and possible follow-on work in our scientific and industrial community. Papers range from storage access aspects of interoperability to ontologies for semantic integration, and builder’s and user’s interface concepts and tools.

The program chairs work has been made possible by the help of the distinguished program committee listed below. On behalf of the whole program committee we want to thank all the reviewers for their valuable comments. In addition we want to thank the Panel Chair, Hans Schek, the Tutorials Chair, Tamer Oszu, the Industrial program Chair, Dimitrious Georgakopoulos, and the Publicity Chair, Don Potter for their invaluable help in creating the overall conference program. We also want to thank Karl Aberer and Abdelsalam Helal for serving as proceedings editors. Finally, we want to note our appreciation to the General Chairs of the Conference, Robert Meersman and Amit Sheth, as well as the whole IFCIS Foundation for their confidence in us. The support and help of all these people has been inspiring. We hope we did not let them down.

Special mention deserves the work of Marc Volz and Christine Zollmann who handled the logistics of the snail-mail, e-mail, and web communication with everybody involved, and managed the details of the review process. Klemens Boehm proved essential during the Program Committee Meeting.

Ahmed K. Elmagarmid and Erich Neuhold
PC Chairs, CoopIS’96