

Preface

The Forty-First Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS-41) was held at Hilton Waikoloa Village Resort and Spa on the Big Island, January 7-10, 2008. This year's proceedings consist of over 410 papers in ten major tracks. The topics are summarized on the Overview page showing the tracks and minitracks. Our two most recently added tracks, Electronic Government and Knowledge Management Systems, continue to build after several years of development. Continuing as an exciting feature of the conference this year were several Symposia and Workshops that created active discussions during the conference, with many interesting presentations from academic and corporate researchers. Some of the symposia leaders developed separate published reports of their sessions that are posted on the HICSS Web site.

These Proceedings consist only of papers that have not previously been published. They have undergone a detailed peer review process and were selected based on rigorous standards. At the conference, these papers were presented by the authors and discussed in highly interactive sessions. HICSS provides a unique forum for the interchange of ideas, advances, and applications among academicians and practitioners in the information, computing, and system sciences. HICSS is sponsored by the Shidler College of Business, University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

The HICSS series of conferences is now in its 41st year. Very few conferences have been able to grow and develop as HICSS has over this period. The computer age is barely 50 years old, and HICSS has been an important event in the world of computer science and information technology applications during most of that time.

The conference continues to be one of the best working conferences in computer-related sciences, with a high level of interaction among the leading scientists, engineers, and professionals. Many of the papers and presentations at HICSS have become journal articles, have developed into monographs or books, or have appeared in special issues of journals of wide circulation such as *Computer*, *IEEE Software*, *Decision Support Systems*, and *Journal of Management Information Systems*. Some major topics such as Collaboration Systems, Model Management Systems, and Negotiation Support Systems have been largely initiated, developed, and documented by presentations and papers at HICSS. Sincere thanks go to all the authors, attendees, coordinators, chairpersons, advisory committees, and administrative staff who make the conference a success.

The HICSS proceedings have made an impressive contribution to the literature base with over 80,000 pages during the past 40 years. Since 1999, we have engaged in a process of expanding the proceedings to include additional forms and media. The objective has been to capture the benefits of electronic media while preserving the benefits of printed proceedings. The CD-ROM of full papers is included in a sleeve inside the back cover of the book of abstracts. Both are distributed at the conference and sold afterward by the IEEE Computer Society. You may peruse the abstracts to find papers of interest, and then use the CD to read the full paper. The abstract book is arranged in alphabetical order by Track and Minitrack name. On the CD, you may use the excellent Electronic Guide or the search facility to find papers of interest.

Ralph H. Sprague Jr.
HICSS-41 Conference Chair
E-mail Address: sprague@hawaii.edu