A Message from the Program Chairs

These proceedings contain the technical papers selected for presentation at the Seventh International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (IC3N '98) held in Lafayette, Louisiana, October 12 — October 15, 1995. The IC3N '98 conference, sponsored by IEEE Communications Society, Army Research Lab and BellSouth is an annual, international forum for the dissemination of original ideas in computer communications and networks. One of the major themes of IC3N '98 is to foster close collaboration between the computer communications, telecommunications and computer networks communities. Such collaboration is necessitated by the current needs of computer communications and networks technologies, if new horizons of research and development are to be achieved in the next millennium.

The size of the paper submission further indicates the interest and significance of this year’s theme. In response to the call for papers, 283 papers were submitted with authors from over 17 countries spanning five continents. There were submissions from academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and industries. The submitted papers covered all aspects of computer communications and networks.

The paper selection was handled by an outstanding program committee. The program committee members were very keen on the scientific quality of the conference. Each paper was reviewed by at least three program committee members. Rigorous quality criteria based on high technical merit, correctness, originality, significance, presentation and relevance to the conference’s theme were applied to the submitted papers. Only 89 regular and 29 short papers were selected for inclusion in the proceedings.

The papers contained in these proceedings focused on original research results in the areas of theory, design, implementation and application of computer communications and networks technologies. They identified challenging problems facing the development of such technologies, and provided novel, innovative and fundamental advances in these areas. The papers described results on topics of interest to all three communities.

Continuing the rich tradition of the previous IC3N conferences, in addition to the technical papers, a special effort was made to complement this year’s technical program with a collection of keynote talks on non-traditional topics, and panels on funding predictions and research challenges in the area. We are therefore very fortunate to have so many distinguished speakers to give us their viewpoints on recent developing and emerging trends in research and project development.

We would also like to express our deep personal thanks to the conference speakers for their efforts and contributions to a first rate program. We also wish to express our sincere thanks to all the authors for contributing their outstanding papers to this conference and the program committee members, who did an outstanding job in referring the large number of submitted papers. The program committee’s diligence, dedication, cooperation, and hard work in producing a high quality program is gratefully acknowledged. The additional reviewers who offered their expertise on specific topics, and all the authors who submitted papers also deserve our special thanks.

Our special thanks goes to Niki Pissinou, Tony Pressely, Danny Wilson, Biswanath Mukherjee, Sudhir Dixit, Michael Fang, Chunming Qiao and E.K. Park for their support and dedication to the conference. Last but not least we would like to thank the Army Research Lab, BellSouth and IEEE Communications society for their invaluable assistance and joint sponsorship, and the cooperation of the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

We believe that the conference program will stimulate future research and maximize interaction, discussion and exchange of ideas among the participants. It has certainly made all our efforts and innumerable hours of work worth while! Finally, we hope that this event will be a pleasant, informative and fulfilling experience. Enjoy the conference!

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Lafayette, Louisiana

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