MESSAGE FROM THE ICDE 2008 GENERAL CHAIRS

It is our pleasure to welcome you to Cancún, Mexico, for the 24th International Conference on Data Engineering. ICDE has established a tradition as a premier forum for the presentation of research results from academia and industry with a special focus on the engineering aspects of data management. The conference has grown in the last three years to include a wide range of co-located workshops on diverse topics. This year’s conference continues the tradition with an excellent and varied program consisting of 9 workshops, research and industrial tracks, advanced technology seminars, posters, demos, and keynotes.

The success of a conference depends on the strength of the program and the conscientious work and time of many people to whom we are very grateful. The workshop chairs Umesh Dayal and the late Klaus Dittrich who did a great selection and coordination of the workshops. The organizers of the different workshops for enriching the program with high quality workshops. The program co-chairs José Blakeley, Gustavo Alonso and Arbee Chen together with the area vice-chairs for the research track and Guy Lohman, Ricardo Baeza-Yates and Frank Leymann co-chairs of the industrial track, along with the members of the research and industrial PCs put together an excellent program. Mike Carey and Qiong Luo made a careful selection of advanced technology seminars on relevant topics. Maria Orlovska, Christof Bornhövd and Schahram Dustdar selected interesting demos covering a broad spectrum. Joe Hellerstein put together a good set of controversial panels. Highlighting ICDE 2008 are the exciting keynotes by Hector Garcia-Molina, Martin Kersten and Luis von Ahn.

The local arrangements that provide the behind the scenes functionality and amenities that make a conference pleasurable were handled by a strong local team secured by David Garza and headed by Juan Carlos Lavariega and Mayra Padilla, finances by Sharma Chakravarthy and Guillermo Jiménez, the proceedings by Spyros Voulgaris and the publicity and conference website by Mariano Cilia, Pablo Guerrero and Sebastian Salvucci.

Special thanks to the ICDE steering committee for giving us the opportunity to take ICDE to Mexico. Erich Neuhold for his encouragement and unconditional support and Paul Larson for his guidance. Calton Pu, general chair of ICDE 2006 in Atlanta, for his continuous advice, and Tamer Ozsu, Ling Liu and Adnan Yazici, organizers of ICDE 2007 in Istanbul, for sharing their experience with us.

Last but not least we would like to thank our corporate sponsors for their generous financial support and Pedro Celis for helping us securing additional sponsors.

We wish you an interesting and productive conference and a pleasant stay in Cancún.

Malú Castellanos, Alejandro Buchmann, Krithi Ramamritham
ICDE 2008 General Chairs