Letter from the General Chairs

We are extremely honored to have worked in the preparation of the Fifth IEEE Symposium on Computers and Communications. This series of symposia has revolved from its inception on three main goals:

- To provide a forum for high quality interdisciplinary discussions on the various aspects of the convergence between communications and computer technologies,
- To focus on practical problems related to the design, deployment and utilization of information and networking systems;
- To create a congenial environment for friendships to develop and cooperation to blossom among tenants of many disciplines and from many countries.

The first and second conferences convened in Alexandria, Egypt, in 1995 and 1997 respectively. The third took place in Athens, Greece in 1998 and the fourth in Sharm El-Sheikh, on the Red Sea coast of Egypt, in 1999. To celebrate the new millennium, what a better place than the French Riviera?

The success of these series of conferences can be measured in many ways, such as the number of participants that have been attending year after year, the evolution of the number of papers, and the type of experts that we have been able to invite. The number of accepted papers has varied from year to year as follows: 95 in 1995, 106 in 1997, 130 in 1998 and 66 in 1999. This year the number of accepted papers has reached 122 out of 224 submissions.

We are also delighted to have been able to invite distinguished speakers from France, Japan, Switzerland and the United States, to be our plenary speakers. Their talks are expected to cover the academic, industrial and business aspects of telecommunications and computers. They are in the order of their presentations: Professor Jean Pierre Hubaux from EPFL (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne), Switzerland, Hossein Eslambolchi, from AT&T, USA, Professor Koichi Asatani from Kogakuin University, Japan, Professor Ian Akyildiz, from Georgia Institute of Technology, USA, and Dr. Gilles Kahn, INRIA, France. Mr. Yazid Sabegh, the CEO of the French company Communications & Systems will be the main speaker during our banquet dinner on 5th of July 2000.

The success of conferences depends on the tireless efforts of many people. We would like here to mention, in particular, members of the technical program committee for their careful reviews of the submissions and their selection of such a strong program. The local organizing committee was instrumental in hosting so many people at the peak of the tourist season. We would like to thank especially the people from INRIA under the leadership of Dr. Walid Dabbous: Professor Hossam Afifi from ENST-Bretagne, Mmes Dany Sergeant, Françoise Trucas and Marie-Hélène Zeitoun as well as the staff of the Palais des Congrès d'Antibes and its director Mr. Claude Maniscalco.

The Sixth IEEE Symposium on Computers and Communications (ISCC’2001) is scheduled to take place in Hammamet, Tunisia from 3-5 July 2001. Current planning is for ISCC’2002 to be in Italy, somewhere in Sicily. We are always looking to strengthen the ISCC series and we are open to suggestions and volunteers. Please do not hesitate to jump in with ideas and contributions.

Further information on the past and future conferences as well as on how to participate in the activities can be available at the permanent web site of the conference at http://www.comsoc.org/iscc/.

ISCC’2000 General Chairs

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