Editor's Introduction

Organizing any conference is assured to tax all of the energy and emotion of those involved, but organizing an international event that has never taken place before is something else! Fortunately, my only involvement has been to edit the conference proceedings and I have avoided most of the hand-wringing that goes with being responsible for other aspects of the organization.

On the other hand, the Organizing Committee has expended an enormous amount of energy in order to make this event happen, and they deserve a huge vote of thanks and admiration for their efforts — and I am delighted to move that particular motion. The quality of the conference and its success is directly attributable to Jon Patrick, Jose Pastor Urban, and Larry Haist, for their courage and vision in initiating this conference and their efforts, combined with the work of others, to actually make it happen. The quality of papers chosen for publication in the proceedings is very high and I wish to acknowledge the large amount of work that ensured this quality. The anonymous referees, the copy editing by Ken Benn (to whom goes my special thanks), the coordination of referees and the organizing committee by Kitty Ko, and of course, the authors themselves.

Editing proceedings is usually a thankless task — and certain to make the editor more enemies than friends — but nonetheless, I have been pleased to contribute in this way and I am delighted with the results. All my thanks to the IEEE Computer Society Press for their excellent production.

Finally I would like to acknowledge those who have supported the conference in various ways:

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