Foreword

The biannual Brazilian Symposium on Artificial Neural Networks (SBRN) — of which this is the 7th event — is a forum dedicated to Neural Networks and other Models of Computational Intelligence. The SBRN is sponsored by the Brazilian Computer Society (SBC) and co-sponsored by SIG/INNS/Brazil Special Interest Group of the International Neural Networks Society in Brazil.

In 2002, Pernambuco will be hosting the SBRN, held jointly for the first time with the SBIA (Brazilian Symposium on Artificial Intelligence). The Center for Informatics of the Federal University of Pernambuco is in charge of the organization of both events, which has improved their integration.

The SBRN aims mostly at disseminating research results and gathers together researchers, practitioners, and students, both from Brazil and from abroad. In Brazil, the papers submitted to this year’s SBRN provide a more representative distribution of research around the country than previously, when submissions came primarily from the more established universities.

For example, there were submissions from authors of various regions of Brazil such as BA, CE, DF, MA, MG, PA, PB, PE, PR, RN, RJ, RS, SC and SP; and countries like Argentina, Belgium, England, France, Italy, Japan, Peru, Portugal and Spain. Out of a total of 118 papers, 66 were written in English, 51 in Portuguese and one in Spanish.

As a result of a rigorous selection process, 64 papers were accepted for the Symposium. More specifically, 41 papers were accepted for publication in the International Proceedings (Volume I) together with the abstracts of 23 papers (originally written in Portuguese or Spanish) accepted for publication in the National Proceedings (Volume II). The scope of the scientific program has been interdisciplinary, ranging from Mathematics, Computing, and Engineering to Biological Modeling and Cognitive Science.

The quality of this program is a result of the dedication of the Program Committee and all reviewers in producing more than 250 reviews. We would like to thank all of the reviewers, as well as the authors. Furthermore, we thank all the sponsors and volunteers for their valuable help that made this Symposium possible.

Teresa B. Ludermir
General Chair

Marcilio C.P. de Souto
Program Chair

Marley Vellasco
Publications Chair