FOREWORD

The following contributed papers will be presented at the Sixteenth Annual Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science, sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on the Mathematical Foundations of Computing and the University of California at Berkeley, in cooperation with the ACM Special Interest Group for Automata and Computability Theory. The Program Committee selected these papers from the many abstracts submitted in response to the committee's call for papers. The selection was made on the basis of originality and relevance to the foundations of computer science. The Program Committee made its selection based on abstracts, the manuscripts themselves have not been formally refereed, and some of the results represent a preliminary report of continuing research. It is anticipated that many of these documents will appear in more polished and complete form in scientific journals.

The committee wishes to thank all of those who submitted abstracts for consideration, those colleagues who helped in the evaluation of the many abstracts, the University of California at Berkeley for its help in organizing the symposium, and the Editorial Operations group of the IEEE for their help in preparing this material. The program chairman wishes to thank Mrs. Eva J. Powers for her assistance in preparing the manuscripts for printing and in handling many details involved in the committee's work.

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