Message from the General Chairs

Welcome to Atlanta for the 6th Working Conference on Reverse Engineering (WCRE 1999)! Since 1993, this juried conference has brought together researchers and practitioners who are interested in recovering information from existing software systems. Now that the millennium "bug" has attracted much attention to the capabilities of reverse engineering and reengineering technologies, we have an enormous opportunity (as well as a responsibility) to educate the public and our colleagues about what is possible and what is on the horizon. Now more than ever, interaction and free interchange of ideas between researchers in this area is crucial.

Realizing that interaction is key to advancing our field, the Working Conference was designed with a different format than most research-oriented conferences. It emphasizes discussion by strictly limiting paper presentations to twenty minutes each and by following each set of related presentations with open discussion on the topic area. This fosters valuable dialog and debate on where the field is heading, helping to identify critical open issues and increasing our understanding of current approaches. Leading researchers from all over the world, in both industry and academia, meet at WCRE to share insights and expertise. Their technical interchange provides opportunities for new collaborative ventures and promising new lines of inquiry.

Georgia Tech and Georgia State are pleased to host WCRE in Atlanta, which has a rich history of transforming and reinventing itself: from its renewal after the Civil War to initiating dramatic reforms during the civil rights movement. We hope this setting will inspire new ideas on reengineering. We are looking forward to the friendly exchange of ideas that is encouraged by the working conference format.

WCRE has flourished through the constant support and encouragement from our sponsors: the industrial Reengineering Forum and the IEEE Computer Society's Technical Council on Software Engineering. We are also fortunate to have an experienced, efficient, and knowledgeable program committee. We would like to thank the program chairs and the members of the program committee for drawing together an excellent technical program. We are also grateful to Pamela Halverson at Georgia Tech who has provided a wealth of useful information and advice on the conference arrangements.

A special note of appreciation goes to Elliot Chikofsky whose creative efforts make this conference ever-enjoyable and engaging! His vision and leadership have defined the conference since its inception and his wonderful sense of humor permeates all he does to make this conference a success.

Melody Moore  
Georgia State University

Linda Wills  
Georgia Institute of Technology

General Chairs, 6th Working Conference on Reverse Engineering