Preface

The 8th WET ICE was held at Stanford University, Stanford, California, on June 16–18, 1999. This year there were five parallel workshops: (1) Coordinating Distributed Software Development Projects, (2) Web-based Infrastructures and Coordination Architectures for Collaborative Enterprises: Shared Artifacts, a Shared Language, or Shared Spaces?, (3) Enterprise Security, (4) Knowledge Media Networking, and (5) Integrating XML and Distributed Object Technologies. Participants from 15 countries attended the workshops maintaining the truly international flavor that has been the hallmark of WET ICE from its inception in 1990. Seventy-nine papers were submitted, with 46 full papers (58% acceptance rate) and 9 extended abstracts being accepted for publication. Special thanks go to all the workshop organizers and the program committee for their diligent work.

In addition to the formal papers two plenary talks were delivered. The first by Andrew Watson of OMG focused on “Application Integration Using Object Technology,” and the second by Dr. Ram D. Sriram of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST/USA) focused on emerging collaborative frameworks. The workshop participants were challenged to produce a record of their discussions from which a reader of the proceedings can inform himself/herself about the state of the art, emerging trends, interesting applications and relevant standards in each of the topics represented by the various workshops. Gauging from the enthusiasm and energy with which the various workshops were conducted, it is clear that WET ICE continues to fulfill its mission as a forum for lively and informed discussion by knowledgeable experts on topics of interest in the overall field of collaboration.

The success of WET ICE is first and foremost due to the enthusiastic participation of people from various institutions around the world. However, an event like this could not be a success without the dedicated service of a number of volunteers. I would like to thank the Program Chair, Dr. Yahya Al-Salqan; Conference Coordinator, Dr. Sumitra Reddy; Conference Host, Dr. Charles Petrie; and the plenary speakers Andrew Watson and Dr. Ram D. Sriram. Bonnie Kasten and Sara Kleckner of CERC and Charlotte Nissen of Linköping University (Sweden) provided the administrative support. We are especially indebted to Dr. Nahid Shahmehri of Linköping University for hosting the WET ICE Web pages and providing administrative support. Finally I would like to thank IEEE, CERC, and Stanford University for their continued sponsorship of WET ICE.

WET ICE 2000 will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Washington, DC. I look forward to seeing you there again.

Ramana Reddy
General Chair