Message from the Technical Program Co-Chairs

This Workshop, which is the eighth in the highly successful WORDS series, aims to integrate three important computer system engineering technologies (CSETs): Object-oriented CSET, Real-time CSET, and Dependable CSET. WORDS 2003 is continuing the long-standing tradition of serving as a forum for healthy technical debate, and for the exchange of newly recognised research issues, promising advanced formulations, and research progress reports.

WORDS has long been recognised as a selective Workshop for fostering collaborations amongst leading international researchers in the fields of real-time, dependability and object-oriented computing. This year’s technical program fulfils that expectation and, in fact, breaks new ground again as the themes of WORDS 2003, and its focus on cutting-edge research and technologies, are all the more timely given the recent events in the world.

The program for WORDS 2003 consists of forty-four research papers of very high quality, including an invited presentation by Helen Gill from the National Science Foundation on “Embedded Systems Research and High Confidence Systems”. As has been the custom of WORDS, this year’s Workshop concludes with a panel on “Object-Orientation and Real-Time: A Valuable Combination or Incompatible Concepts?” on the last day that reveals challenges and that promises to provoke debate. We are grateful to the members of the Technical Program Committee for reviewing the papers, for helping us to assemble such an outstanding program, and for their efforts in making WORDS 2003 a memorable technical event.

We extend our appreciation to the General Co-Chairs and to the Advisory and Publicity Committee for their valuable advice and support. We are also indebted to members of the Local Arrangements Committee for their significant efforts in organising and operating the Workshop.

Finally, we would like to thank our authors for submitting publications of such high quality, and for sharing the results of their research work freely with the rest of this community.

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