Letter from the General Chairs

Welcome to The Seventh IEEE Symposium on Computers and Communications. It is our pleasure to be involved with such a symposium that has become extremely successful and well respected and attended by both academic and industry researchers.

The symposium this year is hosted in Italy, on the largest Mediterranean island of Sicily—it is taking place in the beautiful tourist area of Taormina–Gardini Naxos which is nestled in a Natural and Historical atmosphere that is most appropriate for a friendly and productive meeting. We trace the ISCC roots back to its origin in the city of Alexandria, Egypt in 1995 on the other side of the Mediterranean, and note the symposium journey in the region that included Greece, France and Tunis and realize that Sicily provides a natural location for this year. We are all indebted to our Italian hosts that were involved in the local arrangements to face up to the challenge and successfully negotiating required arrangements to have the symposium in a busy time of this tourist area.

The program chairs have successfully managed and attracted a large number of submissions. This allowed the symposium to maintain a quality reviewing process and still end up with 32 technical sessions. In viewing the contents of these session, we note that the symposium is emerging closer to its desired goal of bridging the gap that existed between the two growing areas of computers and communications. We also note that the area of security has appropriately, and in a timely manner, appeared in the contents together with other growing technical areas such as ad hoc and wireless networks. We also, continue to see interest in traffic management, multimedia and quality of service research. An evolving area that also made its place in the proceedings is that of software agents and their applications.

We want to thank all organizers and members of the steering committee. Also, we have to realize that the core group of organizers had to face many challenges of working across time zones ranging from Japan, Egypt, Italy, and the USA. We are now in the final stages and feel proud of the technical outcome and of all arrangements. However, we look forward for a time of camaraderie and friendship with lively technical and social interactions in ISCC’02. At this time, we also note that plans and activities are already underway for the ISCC’03, which is expected to take place in Turkey.

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