The International Conference on Web Information Systems Engineering first started in 2000. The conference aims to provide an international forum for researchers, professionals, and industrial practitioners to share their knowledge in the rapidly growing area of Web technologies. The inaugural conference was held in Hong Kong in 2000, followed by the second conference in Kyoto in 2001. In this third conference, we are pleased to report that WISE is rapidly gaining a reputation for its quality and standards.

This volume contains papers selected for presentation and includes the keynote talks to be given by Dr. Serge Arbiteboul and Dr. Meichun Hsu.

An additional volume of workshop papers will be published after the conference. The workshops to be held in conjunction with WISE 2002 are:

- Second International Workshop on Web and Wireless Geographical Information Systems, W2GIS 2002. This workshop is the follow-up of the successful first workshop held at the WISE 2001 conference. As with the inaugural workshop, the organizers are Dr. Chaitan Baru, Dr. Christophe Claramunt, Dr. Bo Huang, and Dr. Stefano Spaccapietra.
- International Workshop on Data Semantics in Web Information Systems, DASWIS 2002 focuses on modeling data semantics and is chaired by Dr. A. Min Tjoa.
- First International Workshop on Mining for Enhanced Web Search, MEWS 2002. This workshop on Web Mining is organized by Dr. Ji-Rong Wen and Dr. Huan Liu.

The conference also features four tutorial sessions that are open to all attendees. These include:

- Web Mining: A Bird’s Eyewitness by Dr. Sanjay Kumar Madria
- XML: The Base Technology for the Semantic Web by Dr. Erich J. Neuhold
- Business-to-Business, B2B E-Commerce: Issues and Enabling Technologies by Dr. Boualem Benatallah
- Web Services for the Technical Practitioner by Jan Newmarch

The conference would not have been possible if not for the efforts of many people. First, our sincere thanks go to the Honorary General Chair, Dr. Cham Tao Soon, President of Nanyang Technological University, for his support and generous provision of resources. Thanks are also due to the Program Committee Co-Chairs, Dr. Tok Wang Ling, Dr. Umeshwar Dayal, and Dr. Elisa Bertino who faced a difficult task in selecting papers from many very good contributions. The efforts of the workshop organizers, various committee members, the publications Chair, Dr. Wee Keong Ng and many others are gratefully acknowledged. Finally, WISE 2002 would like to thank the WISE Society, ACM SIGMOD, the International World Wide Web Conference Committee IW3C2 and sponsors for their support.

We are confident that participants will benefit from the presentations. Others reading this volume will likewise find the papers a source of knowledge and inspiration.

Angela Goh and Marek Rusinkiewicz
Conference Co-Chairs