

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Eighteenth International Conference on Very Large Data Bases has continued the VLDB tradition of providing excellent papers, panels, and tutorials to a large international audience. Important conferences do not just happen but require the coordinated efforts of a large number of volunteers and professionals. As Conference General and Organizing Chairs we would like to acknowledge some of the outstanding contributors.

This year we decided to have one General Program Chair, *Stavros Christodoulakis*, who took on the role of coordinating three separate Program Committees: the European Committee, chaired by *Erich Neuhold*; the Americas Committee, chaired by *Alberto Mendelzon*; and the Far East Committee, chaired by *Yahiko Kambayashi*. They did a superb job of overseeing the refereeing of 379 submitted papers, a record number of submissions for VLDB. The list of Program Committee members is included elsewhere in the proceedings along with an even longer list of additional referees, more than 300. The Organizing Committee and the conference attendees congratulate you and thank you for your diligent refereeing.

We would also like to thank *Stavros Christodoulakis* for organizing the Panel Sessions. We are particularly grateful for those who agreed to act as panel participants and put their ideas and sometimes their necks on the line in an effort to push forward innovative thought amongst our database community.

The other members of the Organizing Committee provided important support to the successful organization of this conference. These members include the area coordinators: *Keith Jeffery* for Europe and Africa; *Benjamin Wah* for United States; *Rob Cook* for the Far East; and *Nick Cercone* for Vancouver. Special thanks go to *Tiko Kameda* for his diligent and efficient work on Local Arrangements, *Lougie Anderson* for Exhibits and *Bill Armstrong* for Treasurer. *Arie Shoshani* provided excellent, experienced support and guidance as the VLDB Endowment Representative. We really appreciate the hard work of our colleague, *Li-Yan Yuan*, who put in several long days as proceedings editor in assembling this large volume. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to *Keith Jeffery* for his assistance in the coordinated our worldwide distribution of conference publication materials.

A conference of this size and international character could not be possible without the support of our sponsors. We wish to thank the VLDB Endowment for having the faith that our database community could successfully host a second VLDB conference in Canada. We especially recognize the support and encouragement of Endowment members *Janis Bubenko*, *Stuart Madnick*, *Peter Lockemann*, *Vincent Lum* and *Arie Shoshani*. We wish also to thank the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS) for their financial commitment and the support of their members. We appreciate the significant support that we received from the many academic, governmental, institutional and industrial supporters of the conference. We are particularly grateful to IBM Canada, Oracle Canada and NCR/Teradata for their major corporate sponsorship roles. Their leadership and willingness to invest in this advanced forum for database research and technology should be applauded by all conference participants. The co-operation of *Eric Wheeler* and *Mark Schlossberg* of IBM Canada, *Harold Snider* of NCR/Teradata and *Vern Merriidth* of Oracle Canada is greatly appreciated.

Finally, and most importantly, we acknowledge the efficient, friendly, considerate and professional assistance we received from *Penny Southby* and her staff at the Simon Fraser Conference Centre. It is hard to imagine how we could have been served better. It was a pleasure to work with them.

I hope that VLDB'92 will provide its own unique contribution to the advancement of databases and that it will be as rewarding to all the attendees as it has been for us.

Paul G. Sorenson  
General Chair, VLDB'92

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