

PREFACE

These Proceedings contain the papers and panels presented at the Eighteenth International Conference on Very Large Databases, held in Vancouver on August 23-27, 1992.

We received a record 373 submissions. There were three regional Program Committees, under the overall chairmanship of Stavros Christodoulakis: one for the Americas, chaired by Alberto Mendelzon, one for Europe, chaired by Erich Neuhold, and one for the Far East, chaired by Yahiko Kambayashi. These committees met in Toronto, Darmstadt, and Kyoto, respectively, and selected a total of 49 papers for inclusion in these Proceedings and presentation at the Conference.

This year the committees put special emphasis on papers addressing innovative applications of database technology or integration of database and other technologies. As a result we were able to include several excellent contributions along these lines in the Proceedings, in addition to papers in the more established topics of our field.

We would like to thank all authors who submitted papers for consideration, and we regret that many worthy and interesting papers could not be accommodated. We thank the Program Committee members and the additional referees who assisted them for the superb job they did in processing a large number of submissions in a short time. Tamer Ozsu and Ravi Krishnamurthy were extremely helpful in assembling the final program. Li-Yan Yuan was responsible for putting the Proceedings together. Special thanks to Manfred Kaul, Yorgos Kapetanakis, Inge Weber, Alexandra Volkheimer and Ursula Hellmann for all their efforts in making these Proceedings possible.

Stavros Christodoulakis
Alberto Mendelzon
Erich Neuhold
Yahiko Kambayashi
June 1992.