

# Preface

VLDB Conferences have played a pivotal role in catalyzing the development, furtherance and deployment of database technology. These conferences have provided forums for the dissemination and discussion of database techniques and their applications. They have also served as platforms where new technological directions and areas for research in databases have been initiated.

The Programme Committee for VLDB 93 strived to continue this tradition. In addition, it made a special effort to further the goal of VLDB to lead the reporting and stimulation of new research directions. As you will note, the scientific programme this year contains several papers on novel and challenging applications of database technology in designing and building complex information systems. The programme has been complemented by an excellent set of tutorials, thought-provoking panels, and invited talks on futuristic topics.

Over 500 authors contributed to the total of 311 papers submitted for refereeing by the Programme Committees. In all, 33 countries were represented.

Each paper was carefully evaluated by at least three programme committee members on the basis of originality, technical quality, presentation, and relevance to VLDB. The result is the interesting and valuable set of 54 scientific papers contained in this proceedings. The proceedings also contains the text of invited talks and panel positions available at the time of going to press.

We want to thank the authors for providing us with the high quality papers; members of the programme committee and the other referees for their time-consuming and meticulous work in judging the papers; and invited speakers for sharing with us all their vision of the future. Further thanks must go to everyone on the Organising Committee under the able and energetic leadership of Jane Grimson and Seán Baker and to the VLDB Endowment and Sponsors for their support.

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*Programme Committee Co-Chairs*