

Welcome Message from the General Chairs

VLDB 2007, the 33rd International Conference on Very Large Data Bases, takes place from September 23-28, 2007 at the University of Vienna, Austria.

VLDB 2007 is the premier international forum for database researchers, vendors, practitioners, application developers, and users. We are looking forward to an exciting conference, discussing original results on all aspects of data management as well as panels, tutorials, and demonstrations that will present the most critical issues and views on practical leading-edge database technology, applications, and techniques. VLDB conferences have become a celebrity seat for co-located workshops on topics related to data management. Continuing this tradition VLDB 2007 also hosts a series of workshops that cover important aspects in the thematic context of data bases.

We heartily thank all the conference officers for their commitment and effort in organizing the conference and putting together the conference programme. We are grateful to the Technical Program Chair Johannes Gehrke, Cornell University, USA, and all the program co-chairs and members of the international program committee for their outstanding and dedicated work. Special thanks to Bernhard Schandl, the Local Arrangements Chair at the University of Vienna and mastermind of the scene, and all the members of the Multimedia Information Systems Research Group at the University of Vienna; without their help this conference could not have been set up. We also want to thank the VLDB Endowment Trustees, that they have given us the opportunity to organize this year's conference.

We would also like to thank our sponsors and supporters: Oracle, SAP, Google, IBM, Intel, HP, Microsoft Research, Yahoo! Research, connex.cc, WKO, and the University of Vienna for their generous support which made several key aspects of the conference possible. Finally, we wish to thank all of the contributors to the conference; the excellent work you do is the reason VLDB conferences constitute today an international prestigious scientific forum, attracting hundreds of submissions and participants from all over the world.

Of course, the technical programme is not the only attraction of this year's conference. The conference takes place at the University of Vienna's Main Building, which was constructed by Heinrich von Ferstel between 1877 and 1884. It is situated on the famous Ringstraße, right in the centre of the city. The University of Vienna was founded by Duke Rudolf IV in 1365 and is the oldest university in the German-speaking world and one of the largest universities of Central Europe. 63,000 students are currently enrolled at the University which offers about 130 degree programmes of various types. Many famous scientists worked at the University of Vienna, including nine Nobel Prize winners who spent at least a part of their academic career at the University of Vienna.

Welcome to VLDB 2007, the University of Vienna, and the City of Vienna. We hope that you enjoy both the technical programme and the City of Vienna!

Wolfgang Klas and Erich J. Neuhold
General Co-Chairs, VLDB 2007