

Introduction

This issue of Applied Computing Review is a selection of papers from the 1999 ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC '99), held February 28-March 2, 1999, in San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A. The first paper, titled "Computing Science: Achievements and Challenges," is a transcription of the SAC '99 keynote lecture by Edsger W. Dijkstra, one of the reknowned scientists in our field and the 1972 Alan M. Turing Award recipient. Professor Dr. Dijkstra reflected upon the history of computer science, especially the development of programming languages and software construction theory. The transcription is due to Aaron Konstam of Trinity University in San Antonio, who was also the Local Arrangements Chair of SAC '99 and organized the keynote lecture by Professor Dr. Dijkstra. The second paper, "Cost-Based Query Optimization for Metadata Repositories," by Martin Staudt, René Soiron, Christoph Quix, and Matthias Jarke, is an extension of their paper from the Database Technology Track and was recommended by the Track Chair Ramzy A. Haraty. This paper describes a cost-based query optimizer offered by a metadata manager using a deductive object-oriented data model. The third and final paper of the issue is "The Multiple Container Packing Problem: A Genetic Algorithm with Weighted Codings," by Günther R. Raidl. This paper is an extension of his paper in the Genetic Algorithms Track and was recommended by Track Chair Roger L. Wainwright. Both of these papers were reviewed by members of the Editorial Board before their inclusion here.

As we bring this issue of ACR devoted to SAC '99 to a close, I would like to also extend you a welcome to SAC 2000, to be held March 19-21, 2000, in Como, Italy. SAC 2000 is the first SAC to be held outside the United States of America. Over the past 15 years, SAC has grown to be the major international conference in Applied Computing. SAC 2000 continues its tradition of high-quality, broad international participation in all areas of applied computing. The symposium is organized as a set of tracks in Artificial Intelligence, Biomedical Computing, Computational Science, Computer Uses in Education, Coordination Models, Languages and Applications, Database Technology, Evolutionary Computation and Optimization, Fuzzy Applications, Mobile Computing Systems and Applications, Multimedia and Visualization, Parallel and Distributed Computing, PC Clusters Applications, Programming Languages, Software Engineering and Management, and WWW Applications. There is also a tutorial program covering various application areas. Finally, we are honored to have Professor Carlo Ghezzi of the Politecnico di Milano as our keynote speaker. A registration form for SAC 2000 appears at the back of this issue and you may find additional information at <http://www.acm.org/conferences/sac/sac00>. I hope to see you there!

Barrett R. Bryant, Editor-in-Chief

Conference Calendar

SAC 2000, 15th Symposium on Applied Computing, March 19-21, 2000, Villa Olmo, Como, ITALY. Sponsored by ACM SIGAPP in cooperation with ACM SIGBIO and ACM SIGCUE, <http://www.acm.org/conferences/sac/sac00>

ITS 2000, Fifth International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems, June 19-23, 2000, Montréal, Québec, CANADA. Sponsored by Université de Montréal and Université du Québec à Montréal in cooperation with ACM SIGART, SIGCUE and SIGCHI, IEEE Computer Society, American Association for AI, IFIP TC3-Education, and the AIED Society, <http://www.info.uqam.ca/its2000>

A complete list of ACM sponsored conferences may be found at <http://www.acm.org/events/coe.html>.