Preface

It is a funny thing to be a program committee chairman. In practice it means that for a long time nothing happens, then you are literally drowned by packets with submissions and emails about the "real deadline" (some 40 % papers were submitted on time). Next, you have to distribute these papers in record time (my score: 9 hours work) to other program committee members and referees and, somehow, two and half months later get the referee reports back (the record fax had more than 50 pages).

Here are the bare figures for this conference: 173 submissions from 23 countries and more than 600 referee reports generated.

The program committee met on June 15 and 16 and after lively discussions based on these referee reports selected 50 high quality papers.

Additionally, Professor G. Mints agreed to deliver the Keynote Address, Professors M. Chandy, W. Mitchell and J. Pearl accepted to give invited talks, and Professors S. Abiteboul, M. Fitting, M. Hermenegildo, R. Overbeek, E. Tick and A. Troelstra were willing to present advanced tutorials. The outcome is the volume you are holding in your hands.

Of course I would have been completely lost had I not been helped by a number of people. First of all, I would like to thank here Frans Snijders whose help was instrumental for my survival. Also, my thanks go to Anna Baanders, Mieke Brune, Marjan Koot-de Groot and Ruth Oria for their valuable assistance. Bob Prior from The MIT Press provided me with precise information about the production of the volume.

Finally, last but not least, it was a real pleasure to work with Jack Minker and Johanna Weinstein who were always ready to provide me with instant answers to numerous questions and requests.

Also, I would like to express here my thanks to the authors of all submitted papers, invited speakers, presenters of advanced tutorials, program committe members and the referees. Thanks to all of them this conference could take place.

Krzysztof R. Apt
Program Committee Chair