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Witold Abramowicz and
Maria E. Orlowska (Eds)

BIS 2000

4th International Conference on Business Information
Systems, Poznań, Poland, 12-13 April 2000



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From the Editors

Welcome!

BIS 2000 is the 4th international conference on Business Information Systems. This meeting was initiated in 1997 by Witold Abramowicz to provide a forum for the exchange and dissemination of topical research in the development, implementation, application and improvement of computer systems for business processes. The intent has been to establish strong foundations for further development through the presentation of solid research results in this area among the scientific community, those involved in business computer applications, and among consultants helping to properly implement computer technology and applications in industry. In 2000, this conference has once again shown itself to be a meeting of growing significance. As a result of careful planning and team effort, and the dedication and hard work of a number of key people, this conference has strengthened the standard established a few years ago, and will provide a good base for future meetings.

Over 40 selected papers will be presented at BIS 2000 during the scientific sessions. The papers deal with a variety of topics related to the integration of information systems, electronic transactions and banking, networks technologies and business information systems modelling and analysis. Witold Abramowicz, the General Chair, and the international Program Committee of 60 members, have produced a promising, well balanced technical program for BIS 2000, providing expert reviews to help select good quality papers and presentations for this conference. To complement this, an outstanding selection of international keynote speakers and invited papers has also been organized, as well as special sessions and tutorials on neural networks in business information systems, and business process coordination via workflow technology.

BIS 2000 is proud and honoured to have as invited keynote speakers: George Bakehouse of the University of the West of England UK, Henry Linger of Monash University Australia, Hermann Maurer of Graz University of Technology in Austria, and Susan D. Urban of Arizona State University, USA.

We also express our gratitude to all those people who have helped create the success of the BIS 2000 conference. Pawel Jan Kalczyński undertook the important role of monitoring the submission process and liaising with the publisher, Springer Verlag. Thanks must also be extended to Rebecca Mowat of Springer for her advice and assistance, and Przemysław Grzeszczak for DTP. Krzysztof Wecel provided valuable help with the revision process and the conference program. Registration and accommodation coordination was seamlessly organized by Danuta Nowacka from Poznań International Fair Co. Ltd. (Local Organizing Chair) who also provided clear information about the Poznań region for a large number of international attendees. BIS 2000 also extends its thanks for the efforts of all support and ad-

ministrative staff who have ably assisted the various conference office bearers: Malgorzata Miklas, Kathleen Williamson, Mahmoud Fagir, Jolanta Skorwider, and Tadeusz Tomaszewski.

Very importantly, BIS 2000 also gratefully acknowledges the sponsors and supporters for their crucial involvement and valuable assistance: The Poznan University of Economics, the Poznan International Fair Co. Ltd, the Council of European Professional Informatics Societies (CEPIS), Gesellschaft fur Informatik (GI) in Germany, the International Society for Computers and Applications (ISCA) in the USA, and The University of Queensland in Australia.

BIS 2000 looks forward to sharing this expansive intellectual environment with all conference participants, and we look forward to welcoming all to Poznan, Poland, in April.

Witold Abramowicz and Maria E Orlowska
Editors

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