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Preface

The East European Conference on Advances in Databases and Information Systems (ADBIS) is the successor of the annual International Workshops with the same title that during 1993–1996 were organized in Russia by the Moscow ACM SIGMOD Chapter. Initiated in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1997, it continued in Poznan, Poland, in 1998 and in Maribor, Slovenia, in 1999. The ADBIS Conference became the premier database and information systems conference in Eastern Europe. It intended to increase interaction and collaboration between researchers from the East and the West, and to provide an internationally recognized tribune for the presentation of research results.

The International Conference on Database Systems for Advanced Applications (DASFAA) was first held in Seoul, Korea, in 1989 to promote database research and development activities in Asian and Australasian countries. The Special Interest Group of Database Systems (SIGDBS) of the Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ) and the Special Interest Group of Data Base (SIGDB) of Korea Information Science Society (KISS) had important roles in the organization of DASFAA. Since that time the DASFAA has been held every two years: Tokyo in 1991, Daejon in 1993, Singapore in 1995, Melbourne in 1997, and Taiwan in 1999. The DASFAA became one of the most prestigious international conferences ever held in Asia or Australasia.

The decision to organize the 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium was made just before the ADBIS'98. The organizers of the DASFAA Conference nominated Professor Yoshifumi Masunaga as the co-chair from DASFAA for this joint event in 2000. The goal of the symposium was to promote interaction and collaboration between researchers from Eastern Europe and Asia and Australasia, and to provide an international forum for the presentation of research on database theory, the development of advanced data base management systems technologies, and their advanced applications. It is planned that this symposium will be held bi-annually in the years when DASFAA conferences are not organized. In addition, the 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium is considered to be the regular, Fourth ADBIS annual Conference.

The 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium took place on 5–8 September 2000, in Prague, Czech Republic. In addition to the usual program, a special session on mobile database technology was organized in collaboration with Sanjay Kumar Madria. Its main objective was to bring together researchers and developers interested in this topic and to enrich classical database themes.

This year the 42 members of the 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium Program Committee, from 22 countries, evaluated 115 submissions. After a careful review process, followed by a very long discussion at the PC meeting held on 4–5 May 2000 in Cottbus, Germany, 51 papers were selected for presentation at the 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium: 18 regular papers (14 pages long) and 9 short papers (8 pages) were accepted to be published by Springer-Verlag and

24 papers (10 pages) to be published in the “Proceedings of Challenges”. The paper selection for the mobile database technology session was done by its own program committee which accepted 6 papers (3 regular and 3 short) for this volume and 1 paper for the local proceedings.

We obtained 17 submissions from Asia and Australasia from which 12 were either accepted for this volume (6) or for the “Proceedings of Challenges” (6). Thus, we consider the merge of the ADBIS and DASFAA conferences this year a good beginning.

The selected contributions are completed by 3 invited lectures. They are on spatio-temporal databases, database systems as middleware, and advanced processing environment for managing the continuous and semistructured features of multimedia content.

The staging of the 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium was made possible by the cooperation of many different organizations and people. We would like to express our thanks to all the institutions who actively supported this event, namely:

- Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics
- Institute of Computer Science (ICS), Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
- Brandenburg University of Technology at Cottbus, Computer Science Institute (CSI BUT)

We would also like to thank all members of the Program Committee and the Organizing Committee as well as the Action M Agency for their professional work. Special thanks go to Alfred Hofmann of Springer-Verlag for accepting these proceedings to the LNCS series, to Hana Bílková from ICS who did an excellent job in the completion of the proceedings, to the staff of Bernard Thalheim at CSI BUT for realizing a submission and review system that worked perfectly and for organizing a smooth PC session at Cottbus, and, particularly, to Leonid Kalinichenko for his kind help and advice during the symposium preparation.

July 2000

Yoshifumi Masunaga
Bernhard Thalheim
Jaroslav Pokorný
Július Štuller

2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Organization

The 2000 ADBIS-DASFAA Symposium on Advances in Databases and Information Systems was organized by the Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, and the Institute of Computer Science of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, in cooperation with the Moscow ACM SIGMOD Chapter.

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