Proceedings of
the Fourth European Conference on
Computer-Supported Cooperative Work
From the editors and chairs

Welcome all readers of these Proceedings, participants at ECSCW’95 as well readers after the conference! We hope that you find the papers interesting, informative and stimulating contributions to the multi-disciplinary Computer-Supported Cooperative Work field.

Out of 95 papers submitted to ECSCW’95 the Programme Committee had the difficult task of choosing the 21 papers to be presented at the conference paper sessions and in these Proceedings. The review process has been very thorough. Each paper was reviewed by at least three Programme Committee members. The final decisions were made at an extensive Programme Committee meeting after deep discussions. Many interesting papers could not be accommodated because of the limitations imposed by the choice to maintain an interdisciplinary single-track.

Note that the papers in these Proceedings are but one prominent part of a wide set of activities at ECSCW’95 which also comprises Workshops, Tutorials, Demonstrations, Videos, Posters as well as a social programme. We hope that all participants, academics as well as professionals, will find rich opportunities to discuss, to learn and, consonant with theme of the conference, to interplay.

Demonstrations, Posters and Videos that have been accepted for the conference are presented in a supplement to these Proceedings.

ECSCW’95, and these Proceedings, would not have been possible without dedicated work from the following persons, who we gratefully thank:

• All those who submitted a paper: Receiving many good submissions from contributors that accept a rigorous selection procedure is necessary for a good conference.
• All those who proposed and contribute with Workshops, Tutorials, Demonstrations, Videos and Posters: A rich programme containing those components is crucial for a stimulating conference.
• All those who contributed to the organisation of ECSCW’95: Planning and carrying through an international conference is complicated and required careful attention to a lot of details.
• All the student volunteers: The contribution of the volunteers to making the conference run smoothly and in good spirit is of great value.
• All those who sponsored ECSCW’95: This kind of conference needs a lot of resources where sponsors help so that fees can be held at a reasonable level.
• All those who contributed to the definition of the technical programme: The Programme Committee did a great and difficult job. We hope that the written reviews returned to the authors of submitted papers (whether accepted or not) help them in their work.
• The publishers and designer of the Proceedings: A well designed, printed and distributed book is an important and attractive source and transfer medium of knowledge to the international CSCW community.

• The promoters and organisers of the North American ACM conferences on CSCW: The tacit agreement to interleave their bi-annual conferences with our bi-annual European conferences and the opportunity to announce each others’ conferences as if they were a single track, of which ECSCW’95 is the 9th, significantly contributes to make the ECSCW conference the international CSCW research conference of that year and to defeat geographic barriers.

Hans Marmolin, Kjeld Schmidt, Yngve Sundblad
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