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**ECSCW '93**

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## From the editors

It is a pleasure to welcome all the participants to ECSCW '93 as well as those who may read these Proceedings after the conference.

We hope that you find the papers contained in these Proceedings stimulating and informative. They have been selected from among more than 80 submissions for the Scientific Program of ECSCW '93 by the Program Committee, with the help of more than fifty reviewers. The review process has been very careful. Each paper has had at least three reviews and the final decision of the Program Committee is the result of deep and passionate discussions. Many papers of interest could not be accommodated in the final program. The choice to maintain a single-track program imposed limitations that did not allow the Program Committee to accept them.

We are certain you will find the selected papers stimulating and representative of the diverse approaches and cultures of this multi-disciplinary field.

It is important to underline that the papers that you find in these Proceedings constitute the Scientific Program of an international conference. They are only the most prominent manifestation of a wider set of activities. ECSCW '93 is also Workshops, Tutorials, Demos and Videos. We hope, therefore, that all participants, both professionals and academics, will find rich opportunities for discussing, learning and opening their minds.

If ECSCW '93, and therefore these Proceedings, meets its aims, we must gratefully thank many persons. Let us list all of them.

First, all those who submitted a paper, in particular those whose papers were not accepted. Receiving many good submissions is the basis for a good conference, and accepting a rigorous selection procedure is the basis for good research practice.

Second, all those who proposed and participate in Workshops, Tutorials, Demos and Videos. A rich program is important for embedding paper presentation in a stimulating environment.

Third, all those who contributed to the organization of ECSCW '93. An international conference is a complicated event that requires careful attention to many details, from the publicity that precedes it to the organizational tasks that are needed to make it run smoothly.

Fourth, all those who sponsored ECSCW '93. While an international conference such as ECSCW '93 requires a lot of resources, the help of sponsors allowed us to maintain affordable tariffs.

Fifth, all those who contributed to the definition of the scientific program. The Program Committee members, together with the reviewers who helped them, did a very difficult job. We hope that the written comments that all authors of the submitted papers (whether accepted or not) received back have helped them in their research work.

Sixth, the publishers of the Proceedings. A well designed, printed and distributed book is an important medium for the transfer of knowledge in the international community.

Seventh and finally, the promoters and organizers of the American conferences on CSCW. The tacit agreement between them and us, on interleaving their and our conferences, as well as the practice of announcing the conferences as if they were on a single track has greatly contributed to make ECSCW an international conference that is held in Europe, thereby reducing the geographical barriers between the different research communities.

Giorgio De Michelis, Kjeld Schmidt, Carla Simone

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