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Series Editors

Jaime G. Carbonell, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
Jörg Siekmann, University of Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany

Volume Editors

Osvaldo Cairo
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)
Department of Computer Science
Rio Hondo 1, Progreso Tizapan, 01000 Mexico D.F.
E-mail: cairo@lampart.rhon.itam.mx

L. Enrique Sucar
Monterrey Institute of Technology (ITESM)
Campus Morelos, Av. Reforma 182-A, Lomas de Cuernavaca, Temixco
Morelos, 62589, Mexico
E-mail: esucar@campus.mor.itesm.mx

Francisco J. Cantu
Monterrey Institute of Technology (ITESM)
Center for Artificial Intelligence
Avenida Eugenio Garza Sada 2501, Monterrey N.L., 64849 Mexico
E-mail: fcantu@campus.mty.itesm.mx

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Preface

Fifty years ago, A. Turing predicted that by 2000 we would have a machine that could pass the Turing test. Although this may not yet be true, AI has advanced significantly in these 50 years, and at the dawn of the XXI century is still an active and challenging field. This year is also significant for AI in Mexico, with the merging of the two major AI conferences into the biennial Mexican International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (MICAI) series.

MICAI is the union of the Mexican National AI Conference (RNIA) and the International AI Symposium (ISAI), organized annually by the Mexican Society for AI (SMIA, since 1984) and by the Monterrey Institute of Technology (ITESM, since 1988), respectively. The first Mexican International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, MICAI 2000, took place April 11-14, 2000, in the city of Acapulco, Mexico. This conference seeks to promote research in AI, and cooperation among Mexican researchers and their peers worldwide. We welcome you all.

Over 163 papers from 17 different countries were submitted for consideration to MICAI 2000. After reviewing them thoroughly, MICAI's program committee, referees, and program chair accepted 60 papers for the international track. This volume contains the written version of the papers and invited talks presented at MICAI.

We would like to acknowledge the support of the American Association for Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), and the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI). We are specially grateful for the warm hospitality and generosity offered by the Acapulco Institute of Technology.

Support for MICAI was provided in part by CONACYT's Directorate of the Research and Development on Information Science Network, the Mexican Society for Computer Science, and the following universities and research institutions: BUAP, CICESE, CINVESTAV, IPN-CIC, ITAM, ITESM, LANIA, UDLA, UNAM-IIMAS, and UV.

We gladly acknowledge our invited speakers Wolfgang Wahlster, Hector Levesque, Jay Liebowitz, Adolfo Guzman, Jose Luis Marroquin, and George L. Lasken. A special word of thanks goes to the members of the advisory board, the members of the program committee, the reviewers, our corporate sponsors, our support staff and to Patricia Mora from JTESM for editing this volume.

Last but not least, we warmly thank all the speakers for their excellent lectures.

Acapulco, Mexico, April 11, 2000

Osvaldo Cairo
L. Enrique Sucar
Francisco J. Cantu

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MICAI 2000 was organized by the Mexican Society for Artificial Intelligence and the Acapulco Institute of Technology (ITA).

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