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Volume Editors

Amos Omondi
Flinders University
School of Informatics and Engineering
Bedford Park, SA 5042, Australia
E-mail: amos@infoeng.flinders.edu.au
Stanislav Sedukhin
The University of Aizu
Aizu-Wakamatsu City, Fukushima 965-8580, Japan
E-mail: sedukhin@u-aizu.ac.jp

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Preface

This conference marked the first time that the Asia-Pacific Computer Systems Architecture Conference was held outside Australasia (i.e. Australia and New Zealand), and was, we hope, the start of what will be a regular event. The conference started in 1992 as a workshop for computer architects in Australia and subsequently developed into a full-fledged conference covering Australasia. Two additional major changes led to the present conference. The first was a change from “computer architecture” to “computer systems architecture”, a change that recognized the importance and close relationship to computer architecture of certain levels of software (e.g. operating systems and compilers) and of other areas (e.g. computer networks). The second change, which reflected the increasing number of papers being submitted from Asia, was the replacement of “Australasia” with “Asia-Pacific”. This year’s event was therefore particularly significant, in that it marked the beginning of a truly “Asia-Pacific” conference. It is intended that in the future the conference venue will alternate between Asia and Australia/New Zealand and, although still small, we hope that in time the conference will develop into a major one that represents Asia to the same extent as existing major computer-architecture conferences in North America and Europe represent those regions.

This year’s conference attracted 39 submissions from all over the world – Japan, Australia, the United Kingdom, Germany, South Africa, Egypt, Canada, China, Russia, Czech Republic, India, The Netherlands, Sweden, the USA, and Taiwan – some of these countries were new to the conference. Most of the submissions were of a high quality, but various constraints limited the number that could be accepted for presentation. After a review process, in which each paper was refereed by at least 3 people (including many outside the program committee), we finally selected the 23 papers that are included in this volume. In addition to these “regular submissions”, there are a further eight papers that cover “invited talks”; these contributions also represent a new aspect of the conference.

Past Asia-Pacific Computer Systems Architecture Conferences have always been part of the Australasia Computer Science Week, a group of conferences held at the same time and at the same place, and this has always kept the financial and organizational burden low. This year therefore presented new challenges, and we are very grateful to our sponsors, the University of Aizu and the Kayamori Foundation of Information Science, whose generous support made it possible for us to successfully meet these challenges. We also acknowledge our debt to the authors who submitted papers, the referees, the members of the program committee, and the others members of the executive committee.

September 2003

Amos Omondi
Stanislav Sedukhin

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