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Preface

The Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH) is proud to host the 8th Conference on Advanced Information Systems Engineering (CAiSE). Initially a Nordic conference, CAiSE quickly evolved into a truly European one. After staying in the North for seven years (Sweden, Norway, United Kingdom, France, The Netherlands, Finland) CAiSE now moves to the southeastern border of Europe, in the capital of the Greek island of Crete, Heraklion.

CAiSE*96 continues the tradition of previous conferences in the series in bringing together people from academia and industry in a lively meeting. The major theme of this year's CAiSE is "Software Engineering Challenges in Modern Information Systems". An indicative list of such information systems includes open client/server-based, interoperable, global IS in the Internet, and re-architectured legacy systems. The call for papers also included the traditional CAiSE topics and was given a wide international distribution.

One hundred papers were received from 29 countries and were reviewed by an international programme committee consisting of 45 well reputed researchers in the information systems engineering community. There were 3 reviews for each paper and 30 papers of high academic quality were selected to be presented and discussed at the conference. The papers assembled in this volume represent authors from 16 countries and cover a wide spectrum of topics in the major theme of the conference. The main CAiSE scientific programme is completed by two invited speeches and two panels on important and interesting topics.

Before the main conference, continuing the very successful practice of the recent CAiSE conferences, three workshops were organized on the topics: Requirements Engineering in a Changing World, Next Generation CASE Tools, and Evaluation of Modeling Tools in Systems Analysis and Design, as well as the 3rd Doctoral Consortium on Advanced Information Systems Engineering.

CAiSE*96 and these proceedings would not have been possible without the contribution of many individuals and institutions. We take the opportunity to thank the authors, the programme committee members, the additional referees, the local organizers, the participants, the publisher, and the sponsors.

March 1996

Panos Constantopoulos
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