

Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence

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Preface

This Lecture Notes volume contains three invited contributions, 23 research papers, nine posters, and four system demonstration summaries that were accepted for presentation and publication in the scientific program of the 20th Annual German Conference on Artificial Intelligence KI-96 in Dresden.

The invited talks by Christopher Habel, Stuart Russell, and Henning Scheich consider a fundamental issue of Artificial Intelligence, *Representation*, from different perspectives — cognitive science, rational multiagent systems, and neuroscience, in order to emphasize its interdisciplinary character.

We received a large number of excellent contributions of which a considerable part had been submitted from abroad. The program committee had to be very restrictive in selecting the best papers. Although the call for papers was open for contributions from all fields of Artificial Intelligence, to our surprise most of the papers are about new developments in theorem proving, knowledge representation, and reasoning. The quality of its contributions is the primary measure for the success of a conference, and we are happy to say that our expectations were considerably exceeded. Many thanks to all authors!

We have the pleasure of thanking our colleagues of the program committee cordially for their hard and excellent work. In addition, many thanks to the many reviewers who were very helpful in completing this task successfully. Last but not least, we are very grateful to the local organizers in Dresden, to our conference secretary Mrs. Christine Harms, and to our local secretaries in Dresden and Erlangen for the excellent preparation of this conference.

In addition to the scientific program, KI-96 also offers an applications track, organized by our colleague Heinz Schwärtzel, which is documented in a separate volume, issued by the Computer Science Department of the Technical University of Dresden.

July 1996
Erlangen-Nürnberg
Dresden

Günther Görz
Steffen Hölldobler

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