# APL2000 Conference Thoughts

*—A Review by* **Louise Langlois**



ATTENDING THE APL2000 CONFERENCE proved to be an enlightening experience in more ways than one. First, and foremost, the full-screen applications presented by the various venders were amazing and showed me that APL is more than just a programming language for actuarial formulas and matrix manipulation. Although I have never attempted to write a windows application, it was made clear to me that APL is the quickest and most powerful tool to accomplish that feat.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of the conference was the sense of community that resulted from spending a few days with people that program in my language of choice. It was great to meet and talk to people whose jobs were very similar to my own and even more so to learn what people in a far-off country use APL for in their businesses. It was somewhat comforting to see that there are still many of us who love APL.

I also liked seeing the faces behind the names at APL2000. Everyone was extremely friendly and helpful. Suggestions about how to improve the language were encouraged and written down. The fact that there were several levels of APL ability represented in the conference attendees was not considered a handicap, but rather an opportunity.

The sessions were interesting and very informative. Two, in particular, *New Language Features* taught by Bill Rutiser and the two training sessions done by Rick Butterworth I found extremely worthwhile. While the other sessions piqued my interest windows applications programming in APL (but at times went right over my head), these two filled in gaps in my APL programming repertoire.

I left the conference feeling more confident about the future of APL and as a person who had many new friends with a common interest—APL. ∎