

# Editorial

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After a long way from the day the first CIT journal was launched we have arrived to the end of Volume 1. It is a time, therefore, to make a critical overview of what we have achieved in the first year of CIT publication. Let us start by the statistics.

Twenty-three papers in 4 issues of CIT Volume 1 were published. The papers were written by 42 authors from 10 countries (Canada, Croatia, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, New Zealand, Slovenia, South Africa, UK and USA) which belong to 5 continents. Papers were reviewed by 30 reviewers from 10 countries (Canada, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Germany, Slovenia, The Netherlands, UK and USA).

In addition we have published 6 book reviews with reviewers from Croatia, Hungary and Slovenia.

The papers published covered a rather broad range of topics from the area of computing and information technology: simulation, expert systems, optimization, multiprocessor architecture, parallel computing, databases, information technology innovation as well as various aspects of information systems architecture, development and applications. The majority of papers were theoretically oriented, some were practically oriented but there were only a few describing a real problem solution.

During the past year and a half the editors, as well as the director of the journal, were confronted with numerous problems which we tried to solve in the best possible way. A lot of time and effort was spent in attracting authors, finding reviewers etc., as well as solving technical and financial issues. The experience we gained will help us further in improving the CIT performances in near future.

Obviously nothing can be done without a continuous stream of high-quality papers, and therefore we invite our readers to send their papers! The papers describing solution of real complex problems, case studies as well as papers covering problems of research and education relevant to Central and Eastern Europe will be of particular interest (and especially welcomed).

A serious problem was how to achieve a reasonably fast paper processing. It was not always possible to find immediately the appropriate reviewers for so broad spectrum of topics that CIT covers. Some reviewers were not able to review papers, and too often reviewing time was much longer than we expected. As a result, the average time for the papers from the moment of receiving till its acceptance was roughly 6 months, with additional 3 months needed for publication.

We are taking steps in order to improve the overall processing rate for papers, and our goal in 1994 is to reduce it below 6 months. We expect this may attract more authors to CIT and enable the rising of its quality.

Another serious problem was an approximate delay of 3 months from the scheduled journal issue publishing time. This delay was caused by a combination of technical and financial problems, and we expect to clear it completely during 1994.

In order to improve our journal, we kindly ask our readers to respond to the questionnaire attached to this number.

Concerning the book reviews much less volume was achieved than planned, and we encourage you to contact our book review editor if you are interested in book reviewing.

This last issue of Volume 1 contains 7 papers, all of them in the area of information systems. Two of these papers are regular CIT papers. A paper by David Wilson analysis prototyping as a technique for information systems development. It is argued that prototyping can be used as learning and dialogue enhancing devices. Nenad Mladineo and his colleagues describe application of multicriterion analysis and geographical information system in development of a land rent model. Their goal was to find out the most appropriate model for definition of the city rent for coastal urban areas.

The remaining five papers belong to a special section devoted to Information Systems. This section was edited by dr. Edgar Whitley from The London School of Economics, who presented a group of selected papers from the First European Conference on Information Systems which took place at Henley, UK, in 1993. A special Editorial written by dr. Whitley, a Program head of the conference, was published at the beginning of the special section.

*Editors*