# Editorial

SPECIAL ISSUE: PROCEEDINGS OF EP'96, THE ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING, DOCUMENT MANIPULATION, AND TYPOGRAPHY CONFERENCE

EP96 — Electronic Publishing 96 — is the sixth in a series of international conferences dedicated to all areas of electronic publishing, document manipulation, and typography. This year it is held in Palo Alto, California, USA and is sponsored by Xerox Palo Alto Research Center. For the second time, EP is held in connection with PODP, an international workshop on the principles of document processing.

The EP series of conferences is celebrating its tenth anniversary. It began in 1986 with EP86, held at Nottingham, England, and sponsored by the British Computer Society. Two years later, EP88 was held in Nice, France, and was sponsored by INRIA. The first two conferences focused on the core aspects of electronic document production, from composition to printing.

EP90, sponsored by the United States Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, was held in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and extended its scope to hypertext and hypermedia systems, document recognition and analysis, as well as applications of database techniques to document handling.

EP92, held in Lausanne, Switzerland, and EP94, held in Seeheim, near Darmstadt, Germany, confirmed the trend of electronic publishing to connect with other areas of computer science and to broaden its scope of applications. Conference topics comprise the wide spectrum of the electronic publishing process, ranging from content acquisition, document management and value-adding processes to the production of printed and electronic publications and to aspects of their use. Application areas such as linguistics, music, electronic reference works, and electronic journals are addressed. Both structured-document techniques and hypertext technology are applied.

EP96 firmly establishes multimedia, networked publishing and information visualization as conference themes. The programme includes papers on various aspects of structured and networked documents, multimedia, font encoding schemes and typography, document presentation and representation, document analysis, compression techniques, and interfaces.

Contributions to EP96 came mainly from Europe and the USA. Most contributors were affiliated with academic institutions, some with industry. As in the previous conference, 32 papers were submitted, all of them in electronic form, either in PostScript or in PDF. The papers were made available to all members of the programme committee on a password-protected WWW server. On the average, we received four reports per paper from the international programme committee; many programme committee members read a significantly larger number of contributions. A number of papers received readings by additional experts, recruited by members of the programme committee. We would like to take this opportunity to thank these readers for their efforts: E. Blachman, T. Bratvold,

A. Endres, D. R. Evans, N. Fuhr, W. S. Lovegrove, P. K. Newton, A. Omodeo, S. G. Probets, K. Reichenberger, D. Scuse, P. N. Smith, J. Wang, D. Wood, and A. Zanzi.

In two programme committee meetings, one in Europe and one in the USA, each paper was discussed individually and sixteen were selected for the conference. Although the total number of contributions was small, the programme committee was impressed with the overall high standard of the papers. The programme is rounded out with three invited talks.

Finally, we wish to thank Stefan Hermann for the administrative work on programme committee matters.

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ALLEN BROWN, General Chair
ANNE BRÜGGEMANN-KLEIN, Programme Chair
AN FENG, Programme Committee

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