Welcome to the 24th ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference. The Conference Committee has assembled a technical program and vendor exhibits which we believe keep this conference the leader in the design automation field. The conference not only provides the focal point for keeping abreast of the rapidly changing design automation field, but last year returned a substantial amount to the sponsoring societies for their use in enhancing the profession through education and publications.

The primary goal of the Design Automation Conference is to provide the technical program that will keep the members of the profession current. Thus the technical program committee contains experts from both academia and industry and is chaired by Don Thomas from Carnegie Mellon. This committee has assembled an outstanding technical program from the 351 submitted papers from industry and academia both within the United States and abroad.

Many of the technical innovations that have been reported on in the technical program had their greatest impact when embodied in the design automation systems sold by the exhibitors at our conference. A well-rounded professional must keep abreast of the technical developments and the new hardware and software available from the exhibitors. We have attempted to maintain a balance between the exhibits and the technical program so that together they satisfy the needs of the entire design automation community.

Over the years the Design Automation Conference has changed as the field itself has changed. To continue being a vibrant, dynamic conference we need your input and involvement. We appreciate your comments on the conference and encourage you to get active by serving on one of our committees, acting as a technical reviewer, or submitting papers to the conference.

The conference committee welcomes you to Miami and hopes that the 24th ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference meets your needs and will continue to be for you the premiere event in the field each year.

Lawrence A. O'Neill
Conference Chairman