Foreword

On behalf of the organizing committees we would like to welcome everyone to the 1998 International Symposium on Physical Design (ISPD). This time the symposium is being held in Monterey, California, in the Embassy Suites hotel.

The International Symposium on Physical Design provides a high-quality forum for the exchange of ideas and results in critical areas related to the physical design of VLSI systems. This meeting evolved from the ACM/SIGDA Physical Design Workshops held during the years 1987-1996. The first Symposium in 1997 was highly successful and drew a large number of attendees. The scope of this symposium includes all aspects of physical design, from interactions with behaviour- and logic-level synthesis, to back-end performance analysis and verification.

This year’s Symposium focuses on the challenges of high-performance deep-submicron design. Inherent interactions between physical design and higher-level synthesis tasks is given special attention. An outstanding set of technical papers has been selected for oral and poster presentation. These developments are complemented by invited presentations that set forth the visions for key areas -- process technology, system architecture, circuit design and design methodology -- with an emphasis on their implications for relevant R&D in physical design. The Symposium includes several panels of leading experts who each present their unique perspectives as to the critical R&D needs and challenges of the field. The symposium also includes, for the first time, two tutorials. Leading experts present an overview of topics of fundamental importance in physical design.

We would like to thank everyone in the organization committee and the technical program committee for their hard work and support.

The symposium has been sponsored by the ACM Special Interest Group on Design Automation, in cooperation with IEEE Circuits and Systems Society and IEEE Computer Society. We are greatful. Generous support has also been provided by Ambit Design Systems, Avant! Corporation, Cadence Design Systems, Intel Corporation, Mentor Graphics Corporation, and Synopsys Inc. is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the Organization and Technical Program committees, we sincerely hope that you will find ISPD-98 useful and enjoyable.

Martin Wong  
Program Committee Chair

Majid Sarrafzadeh  
General Chair