Message from the Program Chair

As the accelerated progress of electronic technology pushes the integration of more and more complex systems on a single chip, and promotes the combination of sophisticated hardware and software components to achieve very high levels of performance at decreasing costs, system designers are permanently committed to devising new ways of merging automation and abstraction techniques to deal with this complexity, and obtain competitive designs in shorter times. In this challenging scenario the International Symposium on System Synthesis has been serving, during the last fifteen years, as a forum of reference for discussion of the latest developments in system level design methodologies and tools.

Having begun as the High-Level Synthesis Workshop in 1984, ISSS has reached maturity by continually promoting the interaction between academic and industrial agents, and widening its scope to include emerging topics in system design. ISSS 2000, the 13th edition of this successful series of symposia, includes the following topics:

- System-level synthesis
- Hardware-software co-design
- Programmable (multi-) processor-based design and synthesis
- System design experience and methodologies
- Embedded and real-time system software
- High-level and architectural synthesis
- Synthesis for low power, testability and verifiability in the above areas

This year we have received 61 paper submissions coming from 19 different countries, which consolidates the tradition of ISSS as a truly international event. All the submission and review processes were fully electronic. Based on the result of the first round of the review process, where each paper was sent to at least five independent reviewers, a first selection of “clearly accepted” and “clearly rejected” papers was made. All the remaining papers were further debated in two subsequent rounds until a consensus on the selection of 18 high quality papers was finally reached. Also based on quality criteria the Program Committee decided to include six additional papers as short presentations.

ISSS 2000 also features three special sessions with invited talks that have been organized by leading experts from academia (Giovanni De Micheli, Donatella Sciuto) and industry (Don MacMillen). In addition, two embedded tutorials organized by Peter Marwedel and Mateo Valero, and a panel session on the trends and achievements in system level design, have been programmed.

I would like to thank the numerous committee and local staff members who have contributed to the success of the symposium. We have had to face a very tight schedule to organize this edition of the Symposium only 10 months after the last one. This has implied an extra effort from all the members of ISSS committees that should be explicitly acknowledged. Special thanks to Milagros Fernández, not only for her excellent job in looking for financial contributions and managing local arrangements, but also for helpful support in solving everyday problems. Also special thanks to Juan Carlos López and Margarida Jacome, for their strong efforts as publicity/publications chair and special sessions chair, respectively. Their commitment and efficiency have simplified many aspects of my job. The support and encouragement from our general chair, Fadi Kurdahi, deserves all my gratitude. His leadership, advice, and experience have been essential in solving all the organizational issues in time. I would also like to thank Francisco Tirado for his help in managing the relations with supporting institutions, and participation in key decisions. And, finally, I would like to express the gratitude of the organizers to all the institutions that provided financial support to the Symposium.

On behalf of the ISSS 2000 Steering and Technical Program Committees, I would like to welcome you to Madrid. I wish you a successful Symposium and an enjoyable stay!

Román Hermida
Program Chair, ISSS 2000