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**The Papers of the
NINETEENTH SIGCSE TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM ON
COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION**

**Sponsored by the
ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY
COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION**

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Program Chair's Message

I am pleased to present to you the program of the Nineteenth SIGCSE Technical Symposium. I am confident that it will provide valuable ideas and information to all SIGCSE members.

This program is the result of the efforts of many. I express my appreciation to the authors of the 171 papers that were submitted. Many quality submissions were not included due to limitations on Proceedings pages and availability of time and space for sessions. Special thanks are also given to the 226 referees whose names are found elsewhere in these Proceedings. They were asked to review more papers than usual due to the large number of submissions, and were given an unreasonably short amount of time. In spite of these obstacles, they performed their task promptly and professionally. I offer both gratitude and apologies to the accepted authors who were forced to limit their papers to five pages, painfully omitting vital information from their original submission.

The efforts of the other members of the Program Committee, especially Bruce Klein and Angela Shiftlet, were indispensable in organizing this program. In addition, the Symposium General Chair, Betty Jehn, was always there with encouragement and advice. I appreciate her confidence and support. Donna Baglio of ACM Headquarters, provided every necessary service in a timely and gracious manner.

Finally, I acknowledge the talents and efforts of Lori McDowell in preparing and organizing these Proceedings.

Herbert L. Dershem
1988 SIGCSE Program Chair
Hope College

Program Chair' Final Report Nineteenth SIGCSE Technical Symposium

Herbert L. Dershem served as program chair. He solicited referees, received papers, distributed papers to referees, acted on the referees' recommendations, and organized the program and the proceedings. Angela Shiftlet was responsible for soliciting and organizing panes, tutorials, and birds-of-a-feather sessions. Bruce Klein assisted with many decisions regarding the program and proceedings.

On June 5, a mailing was made to 405 potential reviewers. The names for the mailing were obtained from the previous year's reviewer list, author lists from the previous two years, and other names which were submitted individually. This same mailing also solicited interest in serving as session chair. A total of 233 volunteers responded favorably to this request. Of these, 229 actually were sent papers and returned reviews. Each reviewer was originally sent a maximum of three papers. Because of the unexpectedly large number of papers received in the last few days, several additional reviewers were solicited and some of the other reviewers were called upon to review more than the original three papers. The total number of reviews received was 643.

A total of 171 papers were included in the review process. Eight additional papers were rejected because they were postmarked after the October 15 deadline date. This decision was made because of the short amount of turn-around time for the reviews and the already heavy load placed on the reviewers. Four reviews were solicited for each paper. All four reviews were received for 80% of the papers. For only three papers were only two reviews received and these were reviewed locally before a final decision was made. The papers were placed into four categories based on the results of their reviews. A summary of the distribution and disposition of papers by category is given below:

Category	Total Papers	% of Total	Accepted	% Accepted
Highly Acceptable	30	18	30	100
Acceptable	41	24	24	59
Marginally Acceptable	49	29	9	18
Non-Acceptable	51	30	0	0
Total	171	100	63	37

Papers were accepted based on the following criteria: All highly accepted papers were accepted. All Non-acceptable papers were rejected. Papers were chosen from the other two categories so as to form cohesive sessions and provide a suitable distribution of topics. Preference was given to "Acceptable" papers when possible.

One hundred eleven people volunteered to chair a session. In order to have a wider participation, only those who did not submit papers were invited to serve in this capacity. Twenty-seven invitations were sent with twenty-four favorable responses. Three of these were asked to be alternate session chairs. None of the alternates were required to serve as a session chair.

The papers were limited to five proceedings pages each. This caused some difficulty since this limitation was not known at the time the papers were solicited and received. This resulted in a hardship for several authors and numerous pleas for exceptions to the 5 page policy which the program chair had to turn down.

The proceedings were assembled during December. The authors did an excellent job of providing the camera-ready copy in a timely manner. Fewer authors are using the mattes since more have access to laser printing facilities and prepare their manuscript in a form that does not need to be reduced. The assembly of the proceedings was completed and the proceedings shipped to ACM Headquarters by January 2, 1988.