

# Preface

Following a 13-year tradition of excellence, the 14th ECOOP conference repeated the success of its predecessors. This excellence is certainly due to the level of maturity that object-oriented technology has reached, which warrants its use as a key paradigm in any computerized system. The principles of the object-oriented paradigm and the features of systems, languages, tools, and methodologies based on it are a source of research ideas and solutions to many in all areas of computer science. ECOOP 2000 showed a thriving field characterized by success on the practical side and at the same time by continuous scientific growth.

Firmly established as a leading forum in the object-oriented arena, ECOOP 2000 received 109 high quality submissions. After a thorough review process, the program committee selected 20 papers, which well reflect relevant trends in object-oriented research: object modeling, type theory, distribution and cooperation, advanced tools, programming languages. The program committee, consisting of 31 distinguished researchers in object-orientation, met in Milan, Italy, to select the papers for inclusion in the technical program of the conference. Each paper, reviewed by at least 4 reviewers, was judged according to scientific and presentation quality, originality, and relevance to the conference topics. In addition to technical contributed papers, the program included invited presentations. We were fortunate that four distinguished experts accepted our invitation to share with us their views on various aspects of object technology: Ole Lehrmann Madsen (Aarhus University, Denmark) on unified programming languages, Li Gong (Sun Microsystems, USA) on security in distributed object systems, Munir Cochinwala (Telcordia Technologies, USA) on object technologies for advanced communication systems, and finally Alan Kay (Walt Disney Imagineering Research & Development) who gave the banquet speech. The program was complemented by two panels, focusing respectively on aspect-oriented programming and mobile code, and internet security and e-commerce. Apart from the technical program, ECOOP 2000 also offered tutorials, workshops, exhibitions, and demonstrations. Thus, we trust researchers and practitioners gained many insights into the state of the art of object technology.

It is impossible to organize such a successful program without the help of many individuals. I would like to express my appreciation to the authors of the submitted papers, and to the program committee members and external referees, who provided timely and significant reviews. I owe special thanks to Richard van de Stadt for his excellent job in handling the electronic submission and review process of the papers. I also thank Marco Mesiti for his assistance during the program committee meeting. Last, but not least, I would like to thank the general organizing chairs, Denis Caromel and Jean-Paul Rigault, and all organizing committee members for their tremendous work in making ECOOP 2000 a successful conference.