NOTE FROM THE EDITOR OF THE SPECIAL ISSUE

This special issue of the Applied Mathematics and Computer Science presents the proceedings of the Advanced Computing Educational Project (ACEP) Workshop, which was held in Borowice, Poland from 7th April to 10th April 1992.

The ACEP Workshop was organised by the TEMPUS JEP 0449 consortium, which includes the following educational institutions:

University of Bristol (UK),

University Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UK),

University of Aveiro (Portugal),

University of Minho (Portugal),

Technical University of Wroclaw (Poland),

Zielona Gora Higher College of Engineering (Poland).

It was organised with the support of the Commission of the European Communities within the framework of the TEMPUS Scheme.

The Workshop was aimed at reporting the problems and the results of running the JEP scheme to an audience of invited academics from Eastern Europe who have an interest in ASIC design and VLSI, advanced computer architecture and image and vision processing. The papers, presented in these Proceedings, are grouped into 5 sections, which correspond to the main issues covered by the Workshop.

Section 1 presents CEC ESPRIT EUROCHIP Initiative and the UK ECAD Initiative. These are described by the people directly involved in setting up and running them: Dr. Klaus Woelcken of the CEC ESPRIT Office who has masterminded EUROCHIP and Dr. Peter Jones who administered the UK ECAD Initiative. The understanding is that Poland might need a similar ECAD scheme. This was discussed at the Workshop during a panel session led by Mr. Jerzy Dalek, the Director of IT at the Ministry of National Education in Poland. It is hoped that the papers presented in this section may inspire a wider interest in developing a Polish national initiative for gaining access to cheap ECAD software.

Section 2 groups the papers describing the experiences in running the JEP 0449. They might be of great value to all those setting up new proposals for the upcoming second edition of the TEMPUS II Programme.

Section 3 is devoted to the results of developing curriculum material for courses on digital circuits/VLSI design and advanced computer architectures. They are quite unique in proposing course syllabuses, acceptable to universities from the participating countries (Portugal, UK and Poland), that facilitate student credit transfer. These suggestions will be of great use to anyone lecturing on similar courses.

Finally, **Sections 4 and 5** present some up-to-date research results reported by speakers recruited from the TEMPUS consortium and by some East European participants. These are focused on two areas of interest:

- issues in formal ASIC/VLSI design and verification methods,
- image processing and computer vision.

I am sure that all the papers will be useful to readers who could not attend the ACEP Workshop in person.

Dariusz Caban