Editor's Notes

This is my first issue as the new editor-in-chief of SIGMOD Record. First and foremost, I thank Arie Segev for his six years of service as former editor-in-chief. During that time, Arie made a number of significant improvements to the Record, including timely publication of each issue, expansion to include bibliographies, reports, and regular special sections, and an overall increase in quality. My most important task will be to maintain the high standard Arie has set, while perhaps introducing a few additional improvements as time goes by. Along with Arie Segev, I thank associate editors Rafael Alonso, José Blakeley, Len Gallagher, Xiaolei Qian, and Amit Sheth, and the staff at ACM, for patiently putting up with the transition in editorship.

I take this opportunity to invite members of the database community to submit material for publication in SIGMOD Record. The Record is an excellent vehicle for quickly disseminating technical material of interest that may be too preliminary or too small and self-contained to appear in a conference or journal. You might be surprised just how widely articles appearing in SIGMOD Record are read! In addition to technical articles, we are very interested in publishing short technical notes (see the three appearing in this issue, for example), annotated bibliographies, and reports from conferences, panels, etc. that are of general interest to the database community. Submission instructions and guidelines appear on the inside front cover.

SIGMOD Record maintains a World-Wide-Web site with general information and on-line access to some past issues. You can navigate from the SIGMOD home page (`http://bunny.cs.uiuc.edu`) or go directly to `http://www-db.stanford.edu/sigmod_record`. Recently, it has been decided to limit on-line access to SIGMOD Record in order to encourage SIGMOD membership. (With SIGMOD Record freely available on-line, there was less incentive for people to actually join SIGMOD.) Temporarily, only the table of contents, article abstracts, and calls for papers from each issue will be available on-line. However, once the appropriate mechanisms are set up, full on-line access to the Record will be available to all SIGMOD members, and a special "semi-membership" may be offered for those who want access to the on-line information only.

The present issue begins with three technical notes. Two are in response to technical articles published in the March 1994 issue, while the third discusses bitmapped join indices. The notes are followed by nine technical articles. The first five articles were accepted by Arie Segev during his tenure as editor-in-chief. Topics covered include OODB design and user interfaces, multidatabase query optimization, and record projection. The remaining four articles were accepted by me. Topics covered include temporal, heterogeneous, and mobile databases, and object addressing in commercial OODBs. The Research Survey this issue, by T. Yan and H. Garcia-Molina, covers the topic of information finding in digital libraries. The Research Centers section includes overviews of database work at Florida International University and at The MITRE Corporation. Xiaolei Qian has produced another useful column on funding issues, describing budget battles in Congress, turmoil at NASA, and a number of program announcements. In Trade Press Coverage, Rafael Alonso has arranged for republication of an interesting article from *Datamation* magazine on decision support. In the Standards section, J. Richey of Sybase discusses condition handling in SQL stored modules. As usual, the issue concludes with Announcements and Calls for Papers.

In the upcoming December 1995 issue, in addition to the usual articles, reports, and regular special sections, we look forward to a set of invited papers on the topic of Data Management Issues in Mobile Computing. This special section will be guest edited by Maggie Eich.

Jennifer Widom
July, 1995