

## Foreword

The 5<sup>th</sup> ERCIM Workshop on “User Interfaces for All” builds upon the results of the previous four Workshops held at ICS-FORTH, Crete, Greece, October 30-31, 1995; Prague, Czech Republic, November 7-8, 1996; Obernai, France, November 3-4, 1997; and Stockholm, Sweden, October 19-21, 1998. The electronic proceedings of all workshops, including this one, are available at <http://www.ics.forth.gr/proj/at-hci/UI4ALL/index.html>.

The visionary goal of *User Interfaces for All* is the realization of the *Universal Design* principle in the field of Human-Computer Interaction. A centerpiece of this endeavor is the development of user interfaces to interactive applications and telematics services that provide access and quality in use to potentially all users. The targeted user population includes people with different cultural, educational, training and employment backgrounds, both novice and experienced computer users, the very young and the elderly, as well as people with different types of disabilities and people in various interaction contexts and scenarios of use.

At the core of the vision of *User Interfaces for All* lies a mix of existing and emerging technologies that are likely to shape future user interfaces to a wide range of applications and telematics services. These interfaces must be both *accessible* and *usable*, i.e., provide high quality interaction to potentially all users, so that they are *acceptable* by the broadest possible end-user population. This year’s Workshop encouraged the submission of research reports on *User-Tailored Information Environments* that allow all users to access information that is catered to their needs with as little effort as possible.

The Workshop attracted very strong interest within, but also beyond, the European Community. Following a stringent peer review process, 13 long papers, 6 short papers, and 6 posters have been accepted for presentation at the Workshop and inclusion in the present Proceedings.

We would like to thank all contributors and participants who have made this workshop a successful international event. In particular, we wish to thank the Scientific Program Committee, Local Chair Michael Pieper, and the two invited speakers Jon Gunderson and Hans-Heinrich Bothe for their contributions in ascertaining the scientific quality of this Workshop. Henrike Gappa, Stephanie Mermet, and Bernd Murchner helped organize and run the meeting. The European Research Consortium in Informatics and Mathematics and GMD – German National Research Center for Information Technology gave generous financial support.

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