Guest Editorial

The 4th International Workshop on Discrete Event Systems (WODES'98) was held on August 26–28, 1998 near Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy. This was the fourth workshop after the successful meetings in Prague (1992), Sophia Antipolis (1994), and Edinburgh (1996). Since then WODES2000 has been held in Gent, Belgium in August 2000.

The scientific program of WODES'98 included sessions on modeling and control using Petri nets, on failure diagnosis with discrete-event models, on automata-based supervisory control, and on the optimization and performance analysis of discrete-event systems. The meeting was locally organized by Alessandro Giua, A. Fanni, and E. Usai (University of Cagliari, Italy) with assistance of IEE in London, United Kingdom. The proceedings was edited by Alessandro Giua, Rein Smedinga (Groningen, The Netherlands), and Michael Spathopoulos (Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom). For the proceedings see, WODES'98.

Y. C. Ho, the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Discrete Event Dynamic Systems* (DEDS) has asked Jan H. van Schuppen (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) to edit a special issue of the journal with papers from the workshop. Van Schuppen has asked the editors of the WODES'98 proceedings to join him in this effort which they were so kind to accept. The Editors of the special issue have selected four papers from the workshop that present novel and substantial contributions to the field of discrete-event dynamic systems and that together cover a wide scope of the field.

The authors of the selected papers were asked to submit an updated journal version of the workshop paper for the review process of the journal. As usual for the review process of papers submitted to DEDS, the papers were handled by members of the Editorial Board and review reports were written by reviewers. That the review procedure has taken a considerable amount of time is due to the high standards of the members of the Editorial Board and of the Editors of the special issue.

The Editors of the special issue are grateful to the authors for submitting their papers for the special issue, to the members of the Editorial Board for handling of the papers, to the reviewers for their efforts to review papers, and to Ms Cheryl Knight and Ms Bonnie Blaisdell of the DEDS Editorial Office of Kluwer Boston, for their support with the papers.

The special issue on WODES'98 presents four papers which show the current status of the field of modeling and control of discrete-event systems.

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(Editors special issue)