



**Foundation for  
Information Technology  
Education**

Dear Colleague:

A little more than a year ago, I had the opportunity to visit with this year's ISECON Conference Chair, Dr. Stuart Varden, and last year's chair, Dr. David Feinstein, to discuss our plans for ISECON 2000. We had just finished holding a successful ISECON event in Chicago and the future looked bright. Today, it is inspiring to reflect back on that hopeful conversation and to review our aspirations for the meeting in Philadelphia. We hoped to increase the quality of the papers, boost the number of participants and leverage the power of the learning experience that ISECON represents for all who attend. As this year's program came together, under Stuart Varden's exceptional and capable leadership, we began to realize that ISECON 2000 would surpass our expectations in every category!

We are thankful to the large team of folks who have worked so hard to bring this event to fruition. In particular, we deeply appreciate the efforts of the many authors, reviewers, presenters, panelists, workshop instructors, keynote speakers and the ever-faithful ISECON Committee members. We are especially indebted to those who have worked to handle local arrangements, logistics, registration, and the myriad assortment of activities needed to make a national conference like ISECON work so smoothly.

Anyone who has ever worked on the production of the proceedings of a conference of this magnitude can offer powerful testimony regarding the sheer scale of the effort. I would like to offer a special note of thanks to Don Colton for his willingness to explore all options to produce this outstanding *Proceedings*.

Also, on behalf of the Board of Regents of the Foundation for Information Technology Education, I would like to offer our profound gratitude to Stuart Varden and his ISECON team: Denise McGinnis and Neelima Bhatnagar, Program Co-Chairs; Judy Caouette and Bel Raggad, Papers Co-Chairs; Don Colton, Proceedings; David Zolzer, Registration; Margaret Thomas, Vendors Chair; Joseph Daniel and James Dutt, Local Arrangements; William Reaugh, EF Representative; Buzz Hensel, Awards; and Bruce White, ISECON Web Page.

The Foundation for Information Technology Education exists to advance the state of education and practice in the Information Technology profession. We are fortunate to have the Education Special Interest Group (EDSIG) of the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) as our partner in developing the ISECON meeting each year. Through this meeting, we hope to offer a forum in which information technology educators can come together, learn, and return home to the classroom to shape the skills, knowledge and character of tomorrow's information technology professionals.

We hope that you find ISECON 2000 to be a valuable networking and professional development experience. We also hope that you will make plans to join us in the future at ISECON 2001 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Reithel, Ph.D., CDP  
President  
Foundation for Information Technology Education