

# Preface

The 25th International Workshop on Graph-Theoretic Concepts in Computer Science (WG'99) celebrated the anniversary of the workshop series at the Centro Stefano Franscini on Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland, from June 17 to 19, 1999. It was organized by ETH Zürich, sponsored by ETH, the Centro Stefano Franscini, the Swiss National Science Foundation, and Swissphone.

The workshop looks back on a remarkable tradition of a quarter century, with predecessors organized at various places in Europe. WG'99 has been an inspiring mix of questions from theory and practice, and of 74 young scientists and established researchers from all over the world, including Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Russia, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the USA.

Four invited lectures reflect the history, theory, practice and this year's setting. Hartmut Noltemeier as the only one of four founding members of the WG series who served on the program committee throughout the entire history of WG talked about past achievements and future challenges of WG and of the field. Susanne Albers lectured on the theory of online algorithms. Thomas Lengauer presented practical packing problems from the textile and car manufacturing industries, as well as their solutions. A workshop held at the Centro Stefano Franscini traditionally offers a talk that is open to the general (Italian speaking) public – Nicola Santoro delivered this Stefano Franscini talk by reporting on computer science, school, and community, as seen from the eye of the storm.

At the age of 25, WG is healthy and strong. The number of submissions continues to be high, and the selection process continues to strictly filter out the highest quality papers. Out of 64 submitted papers from two dozen countries, the program committee selected 33 for presentation at the workshop. The program committee consisted of

H. Bodlaender, Utrecht (NL)	A. Brandstädt, Rostock (D)
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M. Kaufmann, Tübingen (D)	L. Kučera, Prague (CR)
A. Marchetti-Spaccamela, Rome (I)	E. Mayr, Munich (D)
R. Möhring, Berlin (D)	M. Nagl, Aachen (D)
H. Noltemeier, Würzburg (D)	S. Olariu, Norfolk (USA)
F. Parisi Presicce, Roma (I)	O. Sykora, Bratislava (SK)
G. Tinhofer, Munich (D)	D. Wagner, Konstanz (D)
P. Widmayer, Zurich (CH)	

and worked as a wonderful team: It punctually produced at least four reviews per submission, and it discussed quite a few papers in great detail. Comments and discussion at the workshop have been taken into account by the authors in the papers in this volume.

It is my pleasure to thank many people for their contribution in making WG'99 a memorable event: the authors of papers for submitting their work

and for presenting all accepted papers at the workshop; the invited speakers for delivering fascinating lectures; all members of the program committee and all reviewers for their careful and timely evaluations, and in particular Andreas Brandstädt, Juraj Hromkovič, and Dorothea Wagner for coming to Zürich for the final discussion; Stephan Eidenbenz and Gabriele Neyer for organizing the workshop autonomously and with full responsibility (since I managed to escape into a sabbatical at the right time), and for taking care of the logistics, before, during and after the workshop, including the preparation of this volume; the Centro Stefano Franscini, represented by Christian Stamm, Claudia Lafranchi, and the team at the Monte Verità for hosting us; ETH Zürich, the Swiss National Science Foundation, and Swissphone for sponsoring the workshop; and, obviously, the participants for their active interest that continues to shape our thriving field.

Zürich, August 1, 1999

Peter Widmayer

## The 25 WGs and Their Chairs

WG '75	U. Pape, Berlin
WG '76	H. Noltemeier, Göttingen
WG '77	M. Mühlbacher, Linz
WG '78	M. Nagl, H.J. Schneider, Schloss Feuerstein near Erlangen
WG '79	U. Pape, Berlin
WG '80	H. Noltemeier, Bad Honnef
WG '81	J. Mühlbacher, Linz
WG '82	H.J. Schneider, H. Göttler, Neunkirchen near Erlangen
WG '83	M. Nagl, J. Perl, Haus Ohrbeck near Osnabrück
WG '84	U. Pape, Berlin
WG '85	H. Noltemeier, Schloss Schwanenberg near Würzburg
WG '86	G. Tinhofer, G. Schmidt, Stift Bernried near Munich
WG '87	H. Göttler, H.J. Schneider, Schloss Banz near Bamberg
WG '88	J. van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
WG '89	M. Nagl, Schloss Rolduc near Aachen
WG '90	R.H. Möhring, Johannesstift Berlin
WG '91	G. Schmidt, R. Berghammer, Richterheim Fischbachau, Munich
WG '92	E.W. Mayr, W.-Kempf-Haus, Wiesbaden-Naurod
WG '93	J. van Leeuwen, Sports Center Papendal near Utrecht
WG '94	G. Tinhofer, E.W. Mayr, G. Schmidt, Herrsching near Munich
WG '95	M. Nagl, Haus Eich at Aachen
WG '96	G. Ausiello, A. Marchetti-Spaccamela, Cadenabbia
WG '97	R.H. Möhring, Bildungszentrum am Müggelsee, Berlin
WG '98	J. Hromkovič, O. Sýkora, Smolenice Castle near Bratislava
WG '99	P. Widmayer, Centro Stefano Franscini, Monte Verità, Ascona

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