The University LSI Design Contest was conceived as a unique program of ASP-DAC Conference. The purpose of the Contest is to encourage education and research in LSI design, and its realization on chips at universities, and other educational organizations by providing opportunities to present and discuss innovative and state-of-the-art designs at the conference. Application areas and types of circuits include (1) Analog and Mixed-Signal Circuits, (2) Digital Signal processing, (3) Microprocessors, and (4) Custom Application Specific Circuits. Methods or technology used for implementation include (a) Full Custom and Cell-Based LSIs, (b) Gate Arrays, and (c) Field Programmable Devices, including FPGA/PLDs.

This year, twenty-eight selected designs from seven countries/areas will be disclosed in Session 6C with a short presentations followed by live discussions in front of posters. Submitted designs were reviewed by the members of the University Design Contest Committee based on the following criteria: Reliability of design and implementation, Quality of implementation, Performance of the design, Novelty, and Additional special features. In the selection process, emphasis was placed more on reliability, quality, and performance. As a result, the twenty-eight designs were selected. Also, we have instituted one outstanding design award.

It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the contributions to the Design Contest, and it is our earnest belief that it will promote and enhance research and education in LSI design in academic organizations. It is also our hope that many people not only in academia but in industry will attend the contest and enjoy the stimulating discussions.

Co-Chairs, University LSI Design Contest Committee