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FOREWORD

This volume presents the papers accepted for the AIED 2003 Young Researcher Track. The Young Researcher Track was introduced for AIED-99 in Le Mans, and continued in AIED 2001 in San Antonio, where 2 page papers were submitted for review. In AIED 2003 we invited full papers of 6 pages. Those accepted appear as 2 page abstracts in the proceedings and 6 page papers in this volume. All eight papers will be presented in the Young Researcher Track session. We have extended the presentation time for papers from 15 minutes to 20 minutes, with extra question time, to enable the authors to get the best opportunity to present and get feedback on their work.

The eight papers that appear in this volume present work-in-progress by graduate students and other young researchers. Twelve papers were submitted, and were each reviewed by at least two members of the programme committee. Eight were recommended for acceptance, subject to reviewer comments. We appointed a mentor for each author of an accepted paper, to assist them in producing the final versions of their papers, and paper presentations.

A major innovation this year was the award of the Martial Vivet Best Paper Prize for Young Researchers, in memory of Martial Vivet’s contributions to the field of AIED, to the AIED Society, and in particular for his major contribution to the success of AIED-99. We think that he would have approved of this prize. The four best rated papers, by authors Pinkwart, Rebolledo-Mendez, Mavrikis and Jansen, were considered for this prize, and rated by a panel of experienced researchers. The judges ratings on the papers by Rebolledo-Mendez and Pinkwart could not be split, so a decision was made to award the prize jointly, each author receiving SUS 500. The prizes will be presented by Monique Grandbastien at the conference dinner.

We would like to thank the reviewers, the mentors and the prize judges for their contribution to this section of the AIED 2003 conference programme. We hope that the papers in this volume will inspire and challenge other young researchers to submit their work for review at AIED 2005.

Helen Pain, July 2003