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## Editor's Foreword

The papers in this issue appeared in preliminary form at the Seventh ACM SIGACT-SIGMOD-SIGART Symposium on Principles of Database Systems (PODS), held March 21–23, 1988, in Austin, Texas. The authors of these papers were invited to submit completed versions to this Special Issue. All papers were refereed according to the usual standards of this *Journal*.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the help of the other program committee members in the selection of these papers and to thank the authors and referees for their cooperation in making this Special Issue possible.

MIHALIS YANNAKAKIS  
*Special Issue Editor*