

Greetings

Michael D. O'Dell Editor-in-Chief

Greetings and welcome to the final issue of Volume 6.

We end this volume of the journal with a real international mix.

In the first paper, Campbell and Islam report on techniques which were developed to document the structure of a very large object-oriented program, the *Choices* operating system. The problem of recording the structure of large, complex Object-Oriented systems has been a non-inconspicuous issue in the OO-vs-Non-OO programming debates, so this work documenting a scheme used to describe such a real system is particularly welcome.

In the second paper, Sousa and colleagues describe and review their experiences with a system providing data persistence and distributed programming facilities in one common framework. Both of these topics remain interesting areas, but not many other systems have tried to address both problems while unifying the requisite infrastructure. Workers in a number of different topic areas will find this interesting reading.

The final paper by Banino and company describes DUNE_iX, a real-time operating system providing Unix semantics. Doing real-time computing remains a significant design challenge at all levels of the system so it is always interesting to get a look “under the hood” of another team’s approach to the tough problems.

As is our custom in the final issue of a volume, we acknowledge all the people who work to make *Computing Systems* what it is. These issues exist because of authors, readers, and editors. Special thanks go to Peter Salus, our Managing Editor, who keeps all the cats heading the right direction, and to our new Associate Editor, Eugene Spafford,

who orchestrates special-topic issues. Your assistance is appreciated by this editor more than you can ever know. I also want to welcome John Lions of the University of New South Wales and Brian Bershad of Carnegie-Mellon University to our Advisory Board.

Our readers donate uncounted hours of their time to make the journal the quality it is, both by judging and assisting the authors to make their submissions the best they can be. The nominal list of readers is on the inside front cover, but we have also been aided this year by a large group of special readers: Ray Essick, Judy Grass, Rob Pike, Stuart Sechrest, Barry Shein, Jim Waldo, Pete Wilson, Geoffrey Wyant, and the readers of our two special issues. Our most heartfelt thanks go to all the readers.

Without the authors we would have nothing to publish, so a very special thank you goes to each author who did us the honor of recording their insights and sharing them with us. Please keep it up!

That does it for Volume 6; see you next time.