

Message from the *MobiCom 2004* General Chair

Welcome to *MobiCom 2004* !

It's hard to believe, but *MobiCom* is 10 years old. Yes, this year we celebrate the *diamond* anniversary. Many of us who were involved with the conference since its inception cannot but admire how *MobiCom* evolved over the years to be the prime conference for research in the area of mobile and wireless systems and networks.

And this year's conference is no exception. This year, the technical program consists of 26 top quality technical papers in addition to the challenging panel discussion organized by Victor Bahl on "Wireless Community Mesh Networks - Hype or the Next Big Frontier?" The conference will start with four tutorials on Sunday and Monday and will end with five workshops on Friday: *POMC*, *VANET*, *WiSe*, *WMash*, and *MobiWac*. Additionally, student papers session and demos session are also planned.

I am pleased to have four invited speakers deliver keynote and lunch speeches. Dr. Richard Gitlin will present a keynote speech on "The Wireless Century" and Dr. Dipankar Raychaudhuri will present a keynote speech on "Adaptive Wireless Networking Using Cognitive Radios as a Building Block." Prof. Robert Gallager will deliver a lunch speech on "Technology and its Information Theoretic Roots" and in another lunch speech, Mr. Masaki Yoshikawa will offer his views on "New Directions in Mobile Communications Services."

On the social side, the conference will start with a reception on Monday evening and a cruise dinner on Wednesday. We hope that these, as well as other opportunities to socialize, will be useful in establishing new contacts among the conference attendees. Although *MobiCom* is a conference rather than a workshop, the *MobiCom*'s format of a single-track sessions with ample time for each presentation, was always effective in stimulating discussions among the attendees. So, I strongly encourage you to take full advantage of such technical interactions.

In its 10 years of existence, the location of *MobiCom* has approximately alternated between the East and the West Coasts, with every 3-4 years being held in an international location. This year, it was the East Coast turn and with the assistance of the *MobiCom* Steering Committee, we have settled on the choice of Philadelphia. Of course, given the historical background of the city, the choice was an easy one – I am sure that most of you will find it worthwhile to spend sometime touring the rich heritage of the place.

I admit that when I accepted the invitation to serve as a General Chair, I have had no idea of what I am getting myself involved in. In spite of the fact that I have organized several workshops and served numerous times as a Technical Program Chair and Co-Chair of larger conferences, being the General Chair is a totally different experience. Organization of *MobiCom* is nothing but trivial and requires a lot of negotiation skills. All in all, it was an interesting and learning experience for me.

Of course, this conference would not have been possible without the dedicated work of many people. Ravi Jain and Samir Das served as the Technical Program Co-Chairs, Per Gunningberg and Lars-Ake Larzon as the Workshops Co-Chairs, Andrew Campbell and Taieb Znati as the Tutorials Co-Chairs, Stefano Basagni and Chiara Petrioli as the Student Posters Co-Chairs, Prathima Agrawal and Tao Zhang as the Panel Co-Chairs and Elizabeth Belding-Royer as the Demos Chair. Thomas La Porta served as the *MobiCom 2004* Finance Chair, Robin Kravets and Xin Wang as the Publicity Co-Chairs, Guohong Cao as the Local Arrangements Chair, Eylem Ekici as the Registration Chair, and Jens-Peter Redlich as the Industrial Liaison Chair. All those folks have volunteered their free time to make *MobiCom 2004* a success and have done a superb job in their assigned responsibilities. I am also grateful to the *MobiCom Steering Committee*, chaired by Prof. Imrich Chlamtac, that was helpful in advising me on some choices that I made in organizing the conference. Last but not least, my appreciation to the ACM staff that was always there when I needed their assistance: Erin Dolan, Maritza Nichols, Adrienne Grisetti, Caryn Chan, Ginger Ignatoff, and Donna Baglio. Last but not least, I am also thankful to David Johnson for the front cover page design and invaluable help with the conference web site.

This year, four companies have sponsored the conference: *Microsoft Research*, *DoCoMo USA Labs*, *NEC Laboratories America*, *Intel*, *HP*, and *Boeing*. On behalf of *MobiCom 2004*, thank you for your support!

I wish you all a very enjoyable and educational experience at *MobiCom 2004*.



Zygmunt J. Haas
MobiCom 2004 General Chair