WELCOME

On behalf of the IEEE Neural Networks Committee, I am delighted to welcome you to the first International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN). Our hope is that you find it to be an intellectually and professionally stimulating information experience.

IJCNN was born of a spirit of cooperation between the International Neural Network Society (INNS) and the IEEE Neural Networks Committee, both of whom believe that the neural network community is best served under the banner of a single conference. Our intention is to continue the series of IJCNN's with the purpose of maturing and developing the scientific and engineering themes of our shared area of interest. Neural networks is maturing into a seasoned discipline that still remains the most exciting topic in the computational sciences. This and future IJCNN's are dedicated to a stimulating and professional furthering of this maturing process. We hope that your experience at this first IJCNN is consistent with these goals.

> Robert J. Marks, II, Chairman pro tem IEEE Neural Networks Committee

I would like to welcome INNS and IEEE members to our first International Joint Conference on Neural Networks. May there be many, many more in the future!

Although our memberships are quite different, with INNS members ranging from the life sciences to physics and engineering and IEEE members ranging from the physical sciences to electrical engineering, both societies have been holding similar meetings on neural networks. It makes sense to bring these meetings together. For the advancement of the field, we must work together in harmony. I wish you all a fruitful conference, and the best of luck in your research.

Bernard Widrow, President of INNS IEEE Fellow