GUEST EDITOR's INTRODUCTION

This issue of the journal *JIOS: Journal of Iinformation and Organizational Sciences* represents a selection of the papers presented at the 13th International Conference on Information and Intelligent System held in Varaždin, September 2002.

The papers were selected after thorough review of at least two international referees.

The papers are arranged in alphabetical order, taking the surname of the first author as referential.

In the article EXAMINATION OF PERCEPTION OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT IN LARGE AUSRIAN COMPANIES, Schlögl C. reports part of empirical study that investigated information management in some large companies. In explanation of the two main dimensions of information management: information content and information technology, he presents their differences and common aspects, including organization, interpretation of concepts of information management and the competitive implementations of IT.

In INTRODUCTION OF CENTRAL USER MANAGEMENT IN A LARGE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL – CASE STUDY, Klutke J. and Mertens T. presented one approach to implementation of a system for central management of user accounts and security. The new directory covers not only authentication but also authorization in the connected subsystems. Authors describe the aims, the concepts, the techniques, the realization and the difficulties they had.

In the paper THE STRUCTURE OF A SUBSCHEMA AND ITS XML SPECIFICATION, Luković I., Mogin P., Govedarica M. and Ristć S. introduced the notation of a subschema as a formal and abstract definition of data, constraints, and database update activities necessary to design a transaction program. Recent research shows that a definition of a general and formal structure of the program can be achieved by means of XML specification. The paper presents a formal way to describe the structure of a subschema by means of XML.

In their paper TOPOLOGICAL PLANNING OF COMMUNICATION NETWORKS, Kos M., Mikac M. and Mikac D focus on topological planning process of large-scale communications networks. Because of its complexity (large area, expensive equipment etc.) network topology planning must result in lowest overall network price, at the same time fulfilling all other requirements. Authors proposed network design process divided into three stages: decision regarding the elements that should be included in a backbone network, selection of network topology and determination of the node and link capacity for successful traffic transport as well as routings of traffic demands, including protection.

In the paper A KNOWLEDGE-BASED SYSTEM FOR SUPPORT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION Paralič J., Sabol T. and Mach M. described requirements, expected benefits and current results of the EU-funded project Webocracy. Described is the development of the system WEBOCRAT from the information technology point of view.

The WEBOCRAT system represents a rich set of communication supporting tools, which should bring administration closer to citizens.

In the article PROSPECTS FOR AUTOMATED RELATIONSHIP MARKETING AND CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT VIA INTERNET IN CROATIA Bubaš G., Dušak V. and Vidaček Hainš V. discuss diverse types of automated relationship marketing (RM) and customer relationship management (CRM) activities. Various RM activities and the potential for CRM via Internet are discussed and analyzed in relation to recent research of Web sites of small and medium-sited enterprises in Croatia. Also, an outline of Internet-related RM activities in the e-marketing strategy of Croatian firms is given.

Matetić M., Ribarić S. and Ipšić I. presented the paper LABAQM – A SYSTEM FOR QUALITATIVE MODELLING AND ANALYSIS OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR. In the paper, the authors are dealing with higher-level approach of the animal and their behavior such as conceptual clustering and qualitative modeling in order to represent data obtained by tracking. The LABAQM system for the analysis of laboratory animal behavior, based on qualitative modeling of animal motions, is presented. The LABAQM system operates in two main phases: behavior learning and behavior analysis. The fusion of supervised and unsupervised learning procedures produces more robust models of characteristic behaviors.

In the paper DESIGNING A WEB-SURVEY QUESTIONARY USING AUTOMATIC PROCESS AND A SCRIPT LANGUAGE Dumičić K., Sajko M. and Radošević D. describe a solution of gathering questionnaire information by using information technologies. It is suggested that distributive information service of the Internet and the possibilities of dynamic hypermedia interface of World Wide Web should be used. The work further describes one system for producing and editing form for a Web questionnaire by using a script language similar to a common, natural language. The procedure was clarified by an example.

Vrček N., Brumec J. and Kermek D. presented the paper COMPETITIVE ADVATAGE AND E-BUSINESS STRATEGY discuss significant problem in the strategic approach to management and information system development of the enterprise because of frequent changes of modern technologies combined with speed and continuous evolution of electronic business. The paper shows that, without proper strategy in electronic business environment, enterprise loses its competitive advantage. Most of the enterprises can be guided only by adequate strategy, because they are inherently slow for the recommended agility as the answer.