Introduction

It is our great pleasure to present the first issue of the third year for the ACM Transactions on Architecture and Code Optimization (TACO). ACM TACO focuses on hardware, software, and system research spanning the fields of computer architecture and code optimization. Articles that appear in TACO present insights useful to architects, compiler writers, and hardware or software developers. It has already established itself as the premier archival journal targeted at research in computer architecture and compiler code optimization.

The first 2 years of TACO have been a resounding success. With this first issue of the third year, we have published nine quarterly issues with 36 high-quality papers from over 100 submissions. We thank the authors for sending their top work to TACO. Additional credit goes to our truly outstanding editorial board; we thank them, and the reviewers, for the hard work they have already put into assembling the first 2 years and the upcoming issues in 2006.

To be an attractive option for new research, we believe it is critical that we maintain fast turn around for submitted articles. Authors can submit papers to ACM TACO at any time for standard review. In the standard-review process, we make every attempt possible to have a first response three months after submission. This past year we also started a new review process called the ACM TACO biannual call for papers. This provides the community two paper deadlines for submitting papers to ACM TACO each year with a guaranteed date of notification, which is about 70 days after the deadline. Submitting a paper to our biannual call for papers has several advantages.

First, the biannual call has a significant advantage for the ACM TACO editorial board. To set a date for the call for papers, the editors agree with us upon the submission and notification dates, so they can set aside the time for the review and decision process. This works especially well, since we can pick dates that work for most of the editors. Another important advantage for the editorial board is that we have a virtual committee meeting over the phone at the end of the review period to decide the outcome of the papers. The meeting lasts for about 3 hours and is attended by almost all of the editors. This allows all of the editors to see and discuss the papers being submitted, and helps calibrate the review process across all of the editors. This ensures a more uniform standard for the quality of accepted papers.

The biannual call for papers also has significant advantages for the authors. It provides a deadline for submitting papers, which our community is accustomed to when working toward conference publication deadlines. It also provides guaranteed notification 70 days from submission. This allows us to combine the fast review cycle of conferences with the ability for the authors to address the reviewer's comments and to resubmit the new version for an iterative review cycle. The papers are then published quickly following acceptance.

Our first biannual call for papers in Winter 2005 resulted in 25 papers being submitted; and the second biannual call for papers in Summer 2005 resulted in 40 submissions. We are currently in the process of accepting papers for our

Winter 2006 biannual call for papers; the Summer 2006 biannual call for papers will be at the end of August 2006.

We hope you enjoy ACM TACO and we welcome your submissions.

BRAD CALDER AND DEAN TULLSEN
Co-Editors-in-Chief