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Edited by
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Foreword

This years call for papers produced an unprecedented number of submissions. A total of 174 papers were received, presenting the Programme Committee with a herculean reviewing task. Traditionally the reviewing process is performed by the BMVA Executive Committee. However, in order to accommodate this very large number of submissions, I co-opted David Hogg, Maria Petrou and David Pycock onto the programme committee. Despite this very welcome additional effort, each committee member still had some 30 papers to review in just over one month. I am extremely grateful to everyone involved for the effort and prompt response with which the reviewing process was conducted.

Every submission was reviewed by three committee members. Each paper was given a score under the headings of significance, presentation and originality. Based on these scores, each reviewer ranked their papers according to relative merit. The aggregate rank over the three reviewers was then used to order the 174 submissions.

On the 10 June 1994 the Programme Committee met at University College London to select papers for podium and poster presentation. With only a very restricted number of presentation slots available in the conference, the task of selection was a difficult one. On the whole, there was an astonishing consistency among the decision's of the three reviewers. In the relatively small number of cases where there was a significant divergence of opinion, the paper was discussed and a compromise agreed. Based on the reviews and the discussions at the Programme Committee Meeting, 45 papers were selected for podium presentation and 32 were selected as posters. This means that despite an increase in the number of papers accommodated this year the acceptance rate was only 45%.

At York, the smooth running of the conference has benefited from the very professional efforts of a number of people. Christine Linfoot has dealt with correspondence with authors, the logging of papers and registering participants. Richard Wilson helped with compiling the reviewers decisions and co-ordinating the poster sessions. Simon O'Keefe has taken charge of organising the exhibition. Nigel Sharp

wrote the software for processing the reviewing scores and producing the ranked list of papers; the smoothness and efficiency of the final stage of the reviewing process is entirely to his credit.

Finally, I hope that the proceedings that have resulted from the efforts of the authors, the programme committee and the local organisers will prove to be of lasting scientific value. I believe that we have been able to select novel and topical papers of high quality, which should make for a very stimulating meeting.

Edwin Hancock
Chairman BMVC94

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Mr Nigel Sharp	(Reviews)
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