Preface

This 9th volume of IJCAS contains partial proceedings of CASYS 2000 dealing with Management, Economy, Social and Socio-Technical Systems; Modelling, Simulation, Optimisation and Control in Engineering; Computer Logical Models and Web-Internet Applied Systems.

This fourth International Conference CASYS 2000, on Computing Anticipatory Systems, held at the Business School HEC at Liège, Belgium, August 7-12, 2000, was organised by the non-profit association CHAOS, Centre for Hyperincursion and Anticipation in Ordered Systems, Institute of Mathematics of the University of Liège.

Professor Dr Brian D. Josephson (UK), 1973 Nobel Prize for Physics for his discovery of the *Josephson effect* while a 22-year-old graduate student, accepted to be Invited Speaker at this CASYS 2000 conference.

Moreover, the International Scientific and Program Committees of CASYS 2000 bestowed on Professor Dr Brian D. Josephson, who accepted, the CASYS 2000 AWARD, with a Crystal Book of the Val Saint-Lambert, for his outstanding scientific works on the Mind-Matter Unification Project.

I would like to thank the Members of these International Scientific and Program Committees for their organisational support of CASYS 2000.

Particularly are thanked the referees of the papers who made a very professional work. Among the numerous excellent papers, the selection for the Best Paper Awards was very difficult.

The ceremony of these Best Paper Awards was organised on Saturday August 12, where 12 Best Paper Awards with a Crystal Belgium of Val Saint-Lambert were distributed to 18 authors and co-authors, and 29 authors and co-authors received 17 Best Paper Awards.

Each year, new developments of computing anticipatory systems are proposed at the conferences CASYS. More and more scientists become conscious that anticipation is a key concept for understanding many aspects of science.

Anticipation is not only prediction or forecasting of past events to the future. Built anticipation plays a central role for the development, adaptation and evolution of autonomous systems.

This topic becomes really a new frontier of science as the chaos theory.

Daniel M. Dubois,
Director of CHAOS,
President of CASYS.