Welcome

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*F*or several years, the USENIX Association board has discussed the need for a journal which would be a suitable home for papers of a practical rather than a theoretical nature. A criterion we used in distinguishing articles which belonged in such a journal was that the information they contained would be of value five years or more into the future. As an Association, we had no suitable vehicle for such technical communications, nor did we see the need being well met within the area of UNIX and UNIX-like systems by other journal publications.

We are fortunate in having Michael O'Dell accept the position of Editor-in-Chief for *Computing Systems*. Mike is a well-known figure in the UNIX community whose wisdom and judgement will add immeasurably to the quality and success of the journal.

In line with *Computing Systems'* dedication to education and technical interchange of information about research which works, this issue contains articles concerning a high-level operating system, a real-time language, and dynamics in computer graphics.

The future success and value of *Computing Systems* depend on its readers and contributors. There are many of you whose work would be of interest to a broader community, and we invite you to contribute articles. We are also interested in any feedback on the goals or style of the journal, so that we may best serve your needs.