Welcome to ISBI'06

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to ISBI'06. This is the third edition of the IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging: From Nano to Macro. Since it made entrance in 2002, the meeting has become the premier platform fostering interaction between researchers in the multidisciplinary fields of medical and biological imaging. ISBI'06 begins on the morning of April 6, with tutorials by leading experts on key topics in biomedical imaging. The meeting formally opens in the afternoon and consists of three days of plenary talks, invited special sessions, and contributed oral and poster sessions. The diverse nature of research in biomedical imaging is clearly reflected in the program, which features presentations on the physical, mathematical, and computational aspects of image formation, image processing, analysis, and visualization, in a great variety of molecular, cellular, anatomical and functional imaging applications. The social events of the meeting include a reception on Thursday evening and a banquet on Friday evening.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the planning and organization of the meeting. Dana Brooks put together an excellent set of invited special sessions and we highly appreciate his advice in designing the program. Andrew Laine organized the outstanding set of tutorials that precede the meeting. Bob Murphy expertly managed the financials of the meeting, and Jong Chul Ye the recruitment of corporate sponsors. Alejandro Frangi assisted us in all matters concerning publicity and publication, and Murray Loew took care of local arrangements. We gratefully acknowledge the time and effort donated by the members of the Program Committee and the additional reviewers to insure a high level of quality in selecting papers for inclusion in the program. Special thanks go to the members of the Paper Selection Committee, whose help was invaluable in making final decisions. Many thanks also to the staff of Conference Management Services, Inc. (CMS), in particular Billene Mercer and Lance Cotton, for their hands-on assistance in countless logistic matters, including online paper submission and reviewing, registration, and preparation of the proceedings. We thank all the student helpers you will see assisting you throughout the meeting. Finally, we thank Laura Wolf, Executive Director of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS), and Mercy Kowalczyk, Executive Director of the IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS), for their crucial support and advice.

The quantity and quality of papers submitted to ISBI has increased steadily over the years. In total, 549 papers were submitted to this year's meeting, an increase of 18 percent over 2004. Each paper was sent out to three reviewers, who rated different quality aspects and who provided comments to the authors for improvement. The Paper Selection Committee finally accepted 116 papers for oral presentation and 192 for poster presentation. In addition to contributed papers, 45 invited papers will be presented in special sessions. We thank all authors for choosing to submit their work to ISBI'06. All papers presented at the meeting are included in the CD-ROM proceedings and will be available online through the IEEE Xplore database.

ISBI has been a biennial meeting since its inception in 2002. Because of continuing success, the meeting will be organized annually as of this year. We look forward to welcoming you at ISBI'07, to be held April 12-15, 2007, also in Arlington, VA, USA, chaired by Jeff Fessler and Tom Denney.

Jelena Kovačević
General Chair

Erik Meijering
Program Chair