Preface

Last year, the Department of Computer Science and AI or the University of Malta, organised the first departmental research workshop — the University of Malta, Computer Science Annual Workshop 2003 (CSAW '03). We called this first workshop an *annual* one in the hope that it would induce us to organise it again in 2004. These proceedings are evidence that we have managed to live up to the workshop's name.

It is interesting to compare research presented in last year's workshop and that presented in this volume. Not only does one find development of the work being carried out by the members of staff and graduate students, but also evidence of areas of research evolving through the interaction between members of staff working in different fields. We hope that CSAW'03 has contributed to encouraging such interaction.

This year, we have extended the scope of the workshop further. We have invited finishing undergraduates with an exceptional final project to present their work. We have also invited a number of local IT companies to participate in the the workshop.

We would like to thank the CS&AI staff and research students who cooperated, making it possible to organise the workshop. Thanks also are due to Go Mobile for sponsoring the workshop, Rupert Cefai for designing the proceedings cover, and the Malta Council for Science and Technology for, once again, providing us with a venue for CSAW.

Wishing you interesting and fruitful research discussions in CSAW'04, do not forget to mark CSAW'05 in your diaries!

September 2004

Gordon Pace & Joseph Cordina
CSAW '04 Organisers