Preface

This volume constitutes the proceedings of the fifth European Conference on Object-Oriented Programming, ECOOP, held in Geneva, Switzerland, July 15–19, 1991. Previous ECOOP conferences were held in Paris (France), Oslo (Norway), Nottingham (England), and (jointly with OOPSLA) in Ottawa (Canada). Next year's ECOOP is planned to take place in the Netherlands.

From their beginning, the ECOOP conferences have been very successful as a forum of high scientific quality where the newest developments connected to object-oriented techniques could be discussed, and we are confident that this year's conference will continue this tradition. Over the last few years object-oriented technology has quickly gained widespread use and considerable popularity. In parallel with this, the field has matured scientifically. Fortunately, there is still a lot of room for new ideas and for hot debates over fundamental issues, as will become clear from these proceedings.

The 22 papers in this volume were selected by the programme committee from 129 submissions. The only selection criterion was the quality of the papers themselves; there was no desired distribution over subject fields or over countries. The paper selection was a hard task, and many good papers had to be rejected because of space limitations. The members of the programme committee and the other referees invested a large effort in this, and they more than deserve my sincere thanks. Of course, I also thank the authors of the submitted papers: without them there would be no proceedings.

Apart from the presentation of the selected papers, the conference also offers tutorials, workshops, invited lectures, and a panel. I thank the organizers and participants for their contributions. Further thanks are due to Eugene Fiume, who designed the ECOOP '91 graphic; to the organizers of the TOOLS conference and the conference co-sponsors for the help with mailing; to the organizers of previous ECOOP conferences (particularly Steve Cook and Gillian Lovegrove) for their help and advice; to Liliane Noël, the conference secretary; to the local organization team, Eduardo Casais, Laurent Dami, Betty Junod, Vicki de Mey, Xavier Pintado, Serge Renfer, and Marc Stadelmann; to the student helpers, Adriana Fernandez and Maria Marina Zouridis; and to Frank Stoots, who organized the programme committee meeting. All these people were essential in making ECOOP such a lively and stimulating conference.

May 1991

Pierre America
ECOOP '91 Programme Chair

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