The Chair of the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Data Engineering (TCDE) is elected for a two-year period. The mandate of the current Chair, Betty J. Salzberg, terminates at the end of 1999. Hence is time to elect a Chair for the period January 2000 to December 2001. Please vote using the ballot on the next page.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Paul Larson, Erich Neuhold, Masaru Kitsuregawa, and Meral Ozsoyoglu, is nominating Betty J. Salzberg for a second term. The Committee felt that it was in the best interest of the TCDE that Betty continue for another term and, hence, decided not to nominate additional candidates.

BETTY J. SALZBERG

Biography Betty Salzberg is a Professor of Computer Science in the College of Computer Science at Northeastern University in Boston. Her Ph.D. was in Mathematics at the University of Michigan. Her areas of expertise in database systems include access methods, concurrency and recovery and on-line reorganization.

She has published in the ACM Transactions on Database Systems, the VLDB Journal, Information Systems, Acta Informatica and Computing Surveys. She has written two textbooks on database systems. Her work has appeared in IEEE ICDE, ACM SIGMOD and VLDB conferences. Her research has been funded by the NSF since 1988 and she has also received grants from Digital Equipment Corporation and Microsoft.

Professor Salzberg is the current chair of the IEEE TCDE and served as an associate editor of the IEEE Data Engineering Bulletin in 1996-97. She has served several times on the program committees of the VLDB conference, the SIGMOD conference and the IEEE ICDE conference. In 1998, Professor Salzberg chaired the organizing committee for the NSF Workshop on Industrial/Academic Cooperation.

Position Statement The Technical Committee on Data Engineering publishes a newsletter, the Data Engineering Bulletin, and sponsors the ICDE (International Conference on Data Engineering) and the associated workshop RIDE (Research Issues in Data Engineering). These are the main tasks of the committee.

In addition, in the last two years, we have cooperated with ACM SIGMOD in making available the ICDE proceedings and the Bulletin on CDROM. The CDROM, which also contains SIGMOD and VLDB proceedings, will be available for TCDE members for free. It is inevitable that people with the same interests (TCDE and SIGMOD) will want to share information. Whether they belong to the IEEE or ACM or both, people working in the database industry or on database research want the same access to journals, conferences and newsletters covering their speciality. This is a trend I see continuing and one which our TC must encourage by collaboration with our counterparts in the ACM.

Another trend of which we are all aware is web-based communication. The TCDE has increased our presence on the web. Our newsletter is now almost wholly web-based and we have a Technical Committee web page with versions in English, Chinese, Japanese and Malaysian and with sites in Japan and Europe (Norway) as well as America. The American page is at http://www.ccs.neu.edu/groups/IEEE/tcde/.

In my last position statement, I suggested that there be more of an industry presence in the IEEE TCDE. The workshop I proposed to the NSF on industrial/academic cooperation in database systems took place in October 1998 and its webpage is available at http://www.ccs.neu.edu/groups/IEEE/ind-acad/. Three of the eight people on the TCDE executive board are from industry. One of the co-program chairs and the general chair of ICDE 2000 and the keynote speaker and several of the other members of the organizing committee are from industry. As continuing chair, I would try to increasingly involve industry people more in the TCDE and in its conference, ICDE. Since research in database systems is not purely theoretical, it suffers without the infusion of experience and information practitioners are able to supply.

The Nominating Committee and the entire TC Executive Committee urge you to vote and to return your ballot to the IEEE Computer Society address given on the ballot on the following page.