Preface

I dedicate this issue to my excellent friend Ernst von Glasersfeld, Founder of the Radical Constructivism for which he received the first CHAOS Award. In his talk "Anticipation in the Constructivist Theory of Cognition", Ernst von Glasersfeld pointed out that "Much of what we call knowledge is based on the assumption that past experience can provide clues about future experience. The practice of living and learning consequently involves the anticipation of events and situations at almost every step".

This volume 2 of the International Journal of Computing Anticipatory Systems deals with 23 papers of 32 authors coming from 9 different countries, presented at the First International Conference CASYS'97 on Computing Anticipatory Systems, Liège, Belgium, August 11-45, 1997. The introduction is enhanced by the paper of Jerry LR Chandler who received a Best Paper Award bestowed by the Committees of CASYS'97. The two following sections deal with General, Physical and Engineering Systems. The last section contains the papers presented at the second symposium ECHO on "Emergence-Complexity-Hierarchy-Organization", as a host symposium chaired by Professor George Farre at CASYS'97. Recall that the first symposium ECHO, Amiens, France, August 21-23, 1996, was organised by Andrée C. Ehresmann (France), George L . Farre (USA) and Jean-Paul Vanbremeersch (France).

CASYS'97 was enhanced by the following Honorary Committee:
Marcel Aldenhoff, Administrateur-Directeur de HEC-Liège and Marc Dubru, Directeur de HEC-Liège, who welcome the partcipants of CASYS'97 conference in the marvellous new building of the International Business School HEC-Liège;
William Ancion, Ministre de l'Enseignement Supérieur et des Relations Internationales;
Arthur Bodson, Rector of the University of Liège;
Paul Bolland, Gouverneur de la Province de Liège;
Michel Daerden, Ministre des Transports and Professor at HEC-Liège;
Nicolas M. Dehousse, Emeritus Professor of the University of Liège, President of the Committee of the Royal Academy of Belgium for the Applications of Science;
Michel Foret, Sénateur-Député Wallon, Membre du Parlement de la Communauté française;
Willy Legros, Vice-Rector of the University of Liège;
Hector Magotte, Echevin des Musées et du Tourisme de la Ville de Liège;
Didier Reynders, Député, Professor at HEC-Liège;
Yvan Ylieff, Ministre de la Politique Scientifique.

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Daniel M. Dubois,
Director of CHAOS,
President of CASYS.