Welcome from the Organizing Committee Chairs

It is a pleasure to welcome everyone to the 17th International Conference on Artificial Reality and Telexistence (ICAT 2007), which is being held for the first time in its history outside of Asia/Pacific. It is considered an honor that the ICAT organizing committee have selected Denmark and the city of Esbjerg as host for this historical event from 28th to 30th November 2007. Supporting ICAT 2007 are the second ArtAbilitation conference and the inaugural LEDA (Ludic Engagement Designs for All) conference. A global team of research scholars have been supported by a team of local volunteers toward making the Esbjerg visit a truly memorable experience for all attendees.

It is with great pleasure we welcome Roy Ascott as general keynote speaker to open the proceedings on the morning of 28th November. Roy is recognized as a pioneering luminary across disciplines associated to those being presented. Additional invited speakers will present supporting keynotes, panel, and interactive sessions.

Special thanks is given to the scholars, who as members of the IPC graciously and conscientiously undertook the task of selecting from the submitted papers via multiple blind peer review. The manual review process began with three experts being assigned to each submission according to competence and paper topic. All authors received feedback on whether their submission was accepted or declined based on a carefully designed scoring system. Authors of papers that reached the high standard received additional constructive feedback that resulted in the camera-ready final documentation that is presented in this printed and digital proceedings. All papers will be presented orally by at least one author. Poster presentations will be made by selected authors. An exhibition featuring invited international artists will further support the events.

Thanks are also given to the Program Committee members who have collaborated in formulating the content and grouping of the presentations toward ensuring a consistent theme for each session. We are also grateful to the sponsors of the event and also thank the IEEE Conference Publishing Services who have supported in realizing the high quality of the conference proceedings.

The Esbjerg Institute of Technology, Aalborg University Esbjerg (AAUE) campus is the location for the conference oral presentations, posters, and lunch. The city of Esbjerg supports AAUE in welcoming all delegates. We are pleased to welcome to the ICAT 2007 conference volunteer students from the AAUE Medialogy education. This education originated at the Esbjerg Institute of Technology and offers higher education in topics that relate to those presented at this conference—a great opportunity and experience for the students.

A detailed schedule of daily activities will be presented at the start of each day. These include a welcome reception at the impressive city hall that will be hosted by Johnny Søtrup, the Mayor of Esbjerg; a conference banquet at the internationally famous “Fiskeri-og Søfartsmuseum” (Esbjerg Fish Museum); as well as other social events to encourage networking, meetings, and fun.

Once again, welcome to Denmark and please let us know if there is anything we can help you with to ensure a great time is had during your time in Esbjerg.

Tony Brooks, Esbjerg Institute of Technology, Aalborg University Esbjerg (AAUE), Denmark

Yasushi Ikei, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan