

## Message From the Conference Chair

**T**HE 16th Annual Magnetic Recording Conference (TMRC 2005) was held at Stanford University, Stanford, CA, from August 15 to 17. The main topics for the conference were heads and systems. These included read heads, write heads, perpendicular recording heads and systems, recording systems, advanced coding/detection, and reliability/mechanics.

TMRC 2005 clearly showed the transition to current perpendicular to plane (CPP) sensors and perpendicular recording technology. The technical sessions were well represented by both the industry and the universities. There were 36 invited talks and 16 poster presentations. The authors were from 21 companies and 21 universities and research institutes from several countries around the globe. Several speakers demonstrated areal density beyond 200 Gb/in<sup>2</sup> using perpendicular recording technology. CPP sensor technology and its application to hard disk drives was also discussed in detail. Several papers showed novel designs for coding/detection system, head suspension, and slider technology. Head reliability as it applies to the advanced CPP sensors was also discussed.

The conference was a huge success with 405 registrants, the largest attendance in the 16-year history of TMRC. My thanks to the Stanford University faculty and the staff for hosting the conference and for their hospitality. Finally, I would like to thank my entire team for making this conference possible: Prof. Robert L. White (Stanford University), Prof. Shan Wang (Local Chairman), Naoya Hasegawa (Program Co-chairman), Rick Barndt (Program Co-chairman), Moris Dovek (Publicity Chairman), Sining Mao (Publications Chairman), Joost Mortelmans (Treasurer), and Sharat Batra (Poster Chairman).

HARRY GILL, *Conference Chairman*  
TMRC 2005  
Hitachi Global Storage Technologies  
San Jose, CA

## Message From the Publications Chair

**I**T has been a great pleasure to work with the TMRC 2005 authors on the meeting digest preparation and final paper completion. This was the most highly attended TMRC meeting in recent years, and the 30 papers accepted for this special issue clearly reflect the state-of-the art progress of magnetic recording. I would like to express my thanks to all the authors, reviewers, session chairs, and editors for their efforts toward creating this special issue of IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MAGNETICS.

SINING MAO, *Publications Chair*  
TMRC 2005  
Seagate Technology  
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