



G. P. Rodrigue

WELCOME to the 1993 International Microwave Symposium



Charles T. Rucker

The 1993 IMS Steering Committee is most pleased to be hosting the 1993 International Microwave Symposium in Atlanta, the home of *Gone With The Wind*, the Braves, Delta, TNT, CNN, Georgia Tech, Coca Cola and, in 1996, the Summer Olympiad. We hope the microwave committee will accept our hearty welcome to the unique blend of yesterday and tomorrow that makes Atlanta a pleasure to visit. We know you will enjoy every minute you are here.

About twenty years ago, when the Symposium last visited Atlanta, we could all be housed at the old and grand Biltmore Hotel (now closed) near Georgia Tech and we could meet in facilities on the Georgia Tech campus. Those days, for better or worse, have left us. We are using the World Congress Center (it could house us three times), three or four large hotels and several smaller ones and, although we won't be especially spread out, buses have been arranged to make sure your stay is comfortable and convenient. Atlanta summers are often a little too warm for long walks.

You could scarcely fail to notice our theme: "The Global Reach of Microwaves". Global indeed. You are visiting Atlanta from all over the globe and many of you know far better than we the global effects and influences our technologies have had and continue to have on making the world a smaller place. Only a few years ago, we found continental separations to be barriers to discourse in general. Today, we find few barriers to almost instant error free communications because of modern and fast changing telecommunications, wireless radio, optical links and the like. Are we ready for this?? Possibly. Possibly not. Will you enjoy the personal telephone (number assigned at birth) of the near future? Will it be good that almost anyone will be able to know almost anything—instantly—in the very near future? We can't answer the questions, but those who might be almost certain to be sitting next to you in a technical session or at least nearby.

That last sentence brings to mind the Plenary Session which will be held Tuesday morning at 9:00. We will concentrate on "Global Reach" there. Richard Snelling, Senior Technology Advisor to the 1996 Olympiad and John Day of Strategies Unlimited will give us some insights into the present and future applications of the technologies with which we are so familiar. Snelling will tell us about Microwaves and the Olympiad and Day will look at telecommunications. We hope, in addition, that buzz-words like "dual use technology" will also receive a little clarification.

The 1993 International Microwave Symposium and Microwave Week offer more than you can possibly do in a week. But you should at least try. We know your stay will be rewarding. At the risk of sounding a little bit too regional, some of us insist on saying:

We're glad Ya'll came!

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Steering Committee Co-Chairmen
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