

**Bernhard Ganter**  
**Aldo de Moor (eds.)**



**Using Conceptual Structures**  
**Contributions to ICCS 2003**

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Using Conceptual Structures  
Contributions to ICCS 2003

Bernhard Ganter and Aldo de Moor  
(Editors)



# Preface

This volume contains the *Contributions to ICCS 2003*, the Eleventh International Conference on Conceptual Structures. This conference series continues to be the main forum for the presentation and discussion of state of the art research on conceptual structures. The theories, methodologies, and techniques presented here have grown considerably in scope in recent years. On the other hand, solid bridges spanning the boundaries between such diverse fields as Conceptual Graphs, Formal Concept Analysis, and others are increasingly being built in our community.

The theme of this year's conference was "Conceptual Structures for Knowledge Creation and Communication". In our increasingly (Inter)networked world, the potential support of information technology for the creation and communication of quality knowledge is almost boundless. However, in reality, many conceptual barriers prevent the use of this potential. The main problem is no longer in the technological infrastructure, but in how to navigate, use, and manage the wealth of available data resources. Thus, the question is: how to create and communicate from data the information and ultimately the knowledge required by an ever more complex and dynamic society? Conceptual structures research focuses on what is behind and between the data glut and the information overload that need to be overcome in answering this question. In this way, our field contributes important ideas on how to actually realize some of many still ambitious visions.

All regular papers were reviewed in a thorough and open process by at least two reviewers and one editor. We thank the authors for their submissions, and express our gratitude to the members of the Editorial Board, the Program Committee and the additional reviewers for their active involvement in reviewing the papers and making constructive suggestions for improvement of the manuscripts. The articles accepted for presentation at the ICCS 2003 conference are published in two volumes: the *Proceedings* and the *Contributions*. The Proceedings appear as volume LNAI 2746 of the Springer *Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence*, a subseries of the LNCS series.

July 2003

Bernhard Ganter  
Aldo de Moor



# Organization

The International Conference on Conceptual Structures (ICCS) is the annual conference and the principal research forum in the theory and practice of conceptual structures. Previous ICCS conferences have been held at the Université Laval (Quebec City, 1993), the University of Maryland (1994), the University of California (Santa Cruz, 1995), Sydney (1996), the University of Washington (Seattle, 1997), Montpellier (1998), at Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, 1999), Darmstadt University of Technology (2000), Stanford University (2001), and Borovets, Bulgaria (2002).

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