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Preface

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The nineteen papers collected in this volume were presented at the 14th INFORMS Computing Society Conference, held January 11–13, 2015, in Richmond, Virginia. The overall theme of the conference was "Operations Research and Computing: Algorithms and Software for Analytics." Conference tracks included computational optimization, integer programming, stochastic optimization, constraint programming, heuristics, modeling languages and systems, data mining. There were also several tracks on application areas including homeland security, health applications, and energy systems.

The papers included in this volume represent a cross section of these conference tracks. A total of twenty-five papers were submitted for publication in the conference proceedings. After peer review, nineteen of these papers were selected for inclusion in this volume. We would like to thank the peer reviewers for their hard work and responsiveness in reviewing these submissions.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the organization of the conference and the production of this conference proceedings volume. In particular, we would like to thank the other members of the organizing committee, Xi Chen (poster session chair), José Dulá (social events), Craig Larson (plenary chair), and Yongjia Song (who managed the EasyChair system and scheduling of sessions.) The organizers of previous ICS conferences, Bill Hart, J. P. Watson, and Bruce Golden, provided invaluable advice and support. VCU librarians Sam Byrd, Jimmy Glaphery, and Margaret Henderson helped with planning the open access conference proceedings. Courtney Gahagan designed the cover of the volume. The human pyramids featured on the cover are part of a tradition of the ICS conferences. The editors thank the photographers and the subjects for agreeing to be featured on the cover. Finally, we would like to thank INFORMS staff Miranda Walker, Kathleen Luckey, and Mirko Janc, who helped to edit and produce the conference proceedings volume.

The pyramid builders pictured on the cover are: Ted Ralphs, Jeff Linderoth, Bill Cook, Jim Luedtke, Steven Dirkse, John Chinneck, Diego Moran, Ricardo Fukusawa, Dan Steffy, Siquan Shen, Keren Bulbul, Nilay Noyan, Robin Lougee, Cole Smith, Jeff Ohlmann, Raghu Raghavan, David Phillips, Rui Zhang, Patrick Steele, Austin Powell, Jon Lee, Bruce Shephard, Daniel Rotter, Aviad Rubinstein, Zachary Friggstad, Corinna Gottschalk, Viswanath Nagarajan, Joost van Pinxten, Jan Schneider, Robert Bassett, Laura McLay.

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