Preface

Managing uncertainty is one of the key questions in a diverse range of areas in computing. Many researchers in both universities and commercial organizations are seeking better information on applying uncertainty formalisms. There is a particular need for analyses comparing and contrasting different approaches to uncertainty formalisms and we hope that the papers in this book help to fill this need.

The papers are divided into three sections:

- Papers in the first section outline some of the general problems being considered by researchers and introduce some of the range of uncertainty formalisms being proposed as the basis of solutions.
- Papers in the second section are case studies in applying uncertainty formalisms. Each paper in this category has a well-delineated application problem and an analysed solution based on an uncertainty formalism.
- Papers in the third section report on developments of uncertainty formalisms and supporting technology—such as automated reasoning systems—that are vital for making uncertainty formalisms applicable.

We believe that there is considerable synergy between the papers in this book. Furthermore, we believe that the critical mass of case studies and associated material should make this book a particularly important resource.

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