On behalf of the Beam Instrumentation Workshop Program Committee I want to thank you for your interest to the 13th meeting of the Beam Instrumentation Workshop (BIW08), which took place on the beautiful shores of Lake Tahoe, California. Sponsored by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the workshop was dedicated to exploring the physics and engineering challenges of beam diagnostic and measurement techniques for charged-particle accelerators following the consolidated tradition of this series of workshops. The meeting featured plenary and poster sessions, tutorials, vendor exhibits, multiple opportunities for informal discussions and collaborations, and the presentation of the winner of the 2008 Faraday Cup Award.

Two new important events were added to this 2008 meeting:

- BIW08 offered partial financial support to help graduate and undergraduate students attend the workshop.
- The proceedings of BIW08 were published in the Joint Accelerator Conferences Website (JACoW) database in addition to a book version.

With these new initiatives, the Program Committee hopes to boost interest in the field of beam diagnostics to the next generation of engineers and physicists, and, by publishing the proceedings online, facilitate a free and wider diffusion of the publications. This is of particular importance in this delicate period when, despite the richness of ideas and the possibilities for exciting scientific results, accelerator-based research is struggling to obtain sufficient funding for current and future projects—in the U.S. in particular, but also in other parts of the world.

The organization of BIW08 has been made possible thanks to the generous support of the Accelerator and Fusion Research (AFRD), the Advanced Light Source (ALS), and the Engineering Divisions of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; the Office of High Energy Physics (HEP) of the U.S. Department of Energy; and last but not least, the participants and vendors attending BIW08.

Special thanks go to the members of the Local Organizing Committee whose enthusiastic and outstanding efforts made the workshop become a reality.

Fernando Sannibale, Chair, BIW08
August 2008