## From your Editors

*Dear Readers!*
*The Christmas season is close at hand, and we are in a merry mood indeed, delighted about the positive responses the 'reborn' Newsletter has received. That is not only our achievement but primarily that of the growing circle of authors who are providing us with excellent written material and interviews. We would like to extend our special thanks to Prof. Gerard De Zeeuw, Prof. Franz Pichler, Prof. Magoroh Maruyama and Prof. Herbert Wegscheider. May we count on your continuing support in the coming year?*

*To all IFSR members and other Newsletter fans · we wish you a happy holiday season. Unfortunately we cannot give you a real Christmas present, but in lieu of this we can at least provide improved facilities and incentives for keeping in touch with us (see following boxes).*

*Gerhard Chroust, Stephen Sokoloff*
*Systemtechnik und Automation*
*Kepler University Linz, 4040 Linz, AUSTRIA*

### FAX US A MESSAGE !

*You can reach the Newsletter all day long through Stephen Sokoloff's fax (number: +43-732-792657). Please don't fax late at night! It's best to call first to announce your fax. If nobody is at home, you can still send it, but you have to wait for about half a minute before the transmission begins; first there is a message in German, then time for a spoken response on the telephone answering machine, then a second message; only then the device does switch to fax-mode.*

### HONORARIUM FOR AUTHORS

*We pay a modest honorarium (about US-$ 40) for longer original contributions (not announcements or advertising). Authors are therefore requested to send us their bank connections along with their manuscripts.*

## Problems of (In)variants and Values

Prof.Dr. Gerard de Zeeuw
Center for Innovation
University of Amsterdam
Grote Bickersstraat 72/
1013 KS Amsterdam, Netherlands

photo: Sokoloff

Prof. Dr. Gerard de Zeeuw

From April 12 to April 16, 1993, a meeting was organised by the Systeemgroep Nederland (Dutch Systems Group) and sponsored, among others, by the International Federation for Systems Research. It was part of a series, organised since 1979, to discuss topics that develop out of efforts to apply ideas from systems thinking or have cropped up in various disciplines. These meetings are designed to deal with questions that do not yet have an established slot at other conferences on systems and systems research (such as the EMCSR).

The topic in 1993 was inspired by a number of general observations. In many areas of study there is a plethora of theories but they, unfortunately, all fail dismally when used as a basis for controlled change. Data seem collectable only with a specific purpose in mind, that is, it does