Critical Issues for Operating Systems in Supercomputing Environments **1**
1. Preface 1
2. Executive Summary 1
3. Outstanding Problems 3

I. Distributed Supercomputing **4**
I.A The Distributed Supercomputer Environment 4
I.B The Desired Behavior 6
I.C.1 Some Basic Assumptions 7
I.C.2 Some Applications of Distribution 7
I.C.3 Status 8
I.C.4 Supercomputing Additions to the Distributed Operating System Problem 8
I.D Operating System Issues for General Distributed Environments 9
I.E.1 Follow-on Work 15
I.E.2 Conclusions 15

II. Archival Storage for Distributed Supercomputing Environments **16**
II.A Current Storage Capabilities 16
II.B Desired Storage Characteristics 16
II.C Current Work on Storage Problems 17
II.D Problems of Data Representation and Exchange 18

III. High Speed Networking and Supercomputer Operating Systems **20**
III.A The Current Environment 20
III.B Desired Networking Capabilities 20
III.C The State of the Art in Networking 21
III.D Problems That Must Be Addressed 21
III.E Conclusions 22

IV. Architectural Issues for the Supercomputer OS Environment . . **25**
IV.A Current Architectural Issues 25
IV.B Desired Architectural Features 26
IV.C Problems and Current Status 26
IV.D Steps Toward Solving Architecturally Related Problems 27

V. Debugging for Correctness and Performance **28**
V.A Introduction 28
V.B Desirable Features for Debugging Supercomputer Applications 28
V.C The Current Situation: Problems and Solutions 30

VI. Models of Parallelism **32**
VI.A Current Models of Parallelism 32
VI.B The Desired Environment 32
VI.C Problems 33

Appendix A. Attendance List **35**

Appendix B. Supercomputing '89 BOF Session **37**