Welcome to CCGrid’2008, the 8th IEEE International Symposium on Cluster Computing and the Grid, held in Lyon, France, on May 19-12, 2008. CCGrid is a widely recognized conference in the area of Grid and Cluster computing. For its eighth edition, and after Australia, Germany, Japan, United States of America, United Kingdom, Singapore and Brazil, CCGrid comes to France. France has several current initiatives in the area of Cluster and Grid computing, such as its national ACI GRID started in 2001 and its flagship Grid’5000 project aiming at building a fully reconfigurable large scale distributed computing facility. France also coordinates the only network of excellence in the area of Grid and P2P technologies funded by the European Commission.

This year, CCGrid attracted 201 submissions among which 65 papers were selected. The task of selecting papers involved the more than 100 members of the Program Committee and over 200 external reviewers. Each full paper was peer reviewed by at least 3 referees. The proceedings contain papers from 22 countries, including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom and the United States of America, reflecting the prestige and diversity of the conference.

With respect to the technical content of the conference, the papers cover the key research areas in Grid and Cluster computing: Applications, Communication, Data Management, Fault-tolerance, Grid Economy, Middleware, Programming, Peer-to-peer systems, Resource Management, Scheduling, Security and Workflow. Of note is the set of papers dedicated to service oriented computing that will be presented in a special session this year. We are very pleased to have this dedicated session this year in the conference program since the European Commission has made this topic one its priority within its seventh Framework Programme. Grid computing in Europe is merging with service oriented computing to encompass a wide spectrum of applications, especially ones from industry, which can benefit from all the research results obtained in this area during the last ten years.

Naturally, a large conference as CCGrid is only possible due to the involvement and support of a large number of people. We would like to express our gratitude (i) to the program committee members and external reviewers, who did such an amazing job in providing insightful and detailed reviews, (ii) to the entire organizing committee, and in particular to the General Chairs, Laurent Lefèvre and Craig Lee, (iii) to the CCGrid steering committee, for important guidance, and (iv) to you, who give meaning to all this effort by attending the Symposium.

Once again, welcome to CCGrid’2008 and to Lyon. Enjoy the conference and your stay!

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