Welcome to the 18th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster, Cloud, and Grid Computing (CCGrid '18). We have an excellent conference program featuring 52 technical papers (including four "best paper finalists"), 17 poster papers, three keynote talks, two distinguished plenary talks, and one panel.

A total of 250 papers were submitted for the conference from around the world. After submission, each paper was assigned to one of the Vice-Chairs. The Vice-Chairs then assigned each paper to at least four program committee members. To maintain a high quality of the reviews, the program committee members were responsible for reading the papers themselves and submitting the reviews. They were allowed to request help from additional reviewers, as needed. However, the responsibility for entering the final reviews and recommendations in EasyChair was left solely to the program committee members.

A record number of reviews (an average of 3.96 reviews per paper) were collected from 203 program committee members. Before the physical program committee meeting, online discussions were held among the program committee members through EasyChair to focus on papers with high variant reviews and generate consensus. The program committee meeting was held on January 26, 2018, in Washington, DC. The meeting was attended by the Program Chair, all Vice Chairs, and the General Chair. We deliberated on the papers over a long period of time and finally selected 52 papers (an acceptance rate of only 20.8%) for the final program. An additional 17 papers (acceptance rate of 6.8%) were selected as Poster Papers. A set of papers were accepted under "shepherding" and several Vice Chairs and Program Committee members worked closely with the authors of these "shepherded" papers to improve their quality. Based on the recommendations by the Vice-Chairs, a discussion also took place to select the four "Best Paper Finalists". One of these papers will be selected as the `Best Paper’ at the conference. Congratulations to the authors of all accepted papers and posters including the "Best Paper Finalists."

The 52 papers have been organized into 15 sessions, one "Best Papers" session and one poster session. In addition, there will be three keynote talks, two distinguished plenary talks, and one panel. I am very grateful to our keynote and distinguished speakers for accepting our invitations: Jack Dongarra, Ken Birman, Fred Chong, Fred Buettnner, and Frederica Darema. I am also grateful to David Mountain for heading the panel on "Where is HPC Headed?" and assembling an outstanding set of panelists. The keynote talks, distinguished plenary talks and the panel will try to complement the technical papers to provide an outstanding perspective on the state-of-art research challenges and solutions for cluster, cloud, and grid computing fields.

I am indebted to many individuals for contributing to the success of the technical program. First of all, I would like to thank all eight Vice Chairs (William Tang - Applications, Ron Brightwell - Architecture and Networking, Hai Jin - Cloud Computing, Mitch Gusat – Datacenters and Cyberinfrastructure, Sameer Shende – Performance Modeling and Evaluation, Martin Schulz – Programming Models and Runtime, Henri Bal – Scheduling and Resource Management and Hong Jiang – Storage and I/O) for shouldering the
major responsibilities in handling the submissions in their respective areas. My sincere thanks are extended to all 203 program committee members who accepted our invitations, served on the committee while handling a high load of submissions and were able to turn-in high-quality reviews on time. I would also like to thank an outstanding set of reviewers (their names appearing in the proceedings as a separate list) who extended help to the program committee members by providing high-quality reviews. I would also like to thank all of the authors who submitted papers to the conference. Without help from all of these dedicated individuals, it would not have been possible for me to put together this outstanding program.

It was a great honor to be asked to perform the function of the Program Chair for this prestigious and leading conference in the field. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Tarek El-Ghazawi (General Chair) for giving me this opportunity to serve the community and providing appropriate advice, guidance, help, support, and encouragement throughout the last year during many difficult phases of organizing this conference. It was also a great pleasure to work with a set of highly dedicated and experienced individuals in the organizing committee. My sincere thanks to all of these individuals.

I hope that you will enjoy the strong technical program of this conference while exploring beautiful and historic Washington, DC!!

Dhabaleswar K. (DK) Panda
The Ohio State University