Welcome to the IEEE International Workshop on Cloud Analytics (IWCA-2015).

Clouds have become popular platforms for running big data applications, but cloud data centers are also sources of vast amounts of information about the client workloads, applications, servers, and networks. This data includes server utilization traces, application logs, reliability measurements, and security audit records, all of which can provide valuable information to both cloud providers and tenants. Given the scale of cloud deployments, systematic analytical approaches are critically needed to provide insights about these types of cloud data in order to improve the performance, efficiency, and resiliency of cloud platforms. For instance, cloud providers need to constantly be aware of the running status and any anomalies in functionality from their cloud to be able to quickly fix any issues that may arise, to monitor and adjust physical resource allocations to ensure that their customers get the best performance, and plan which services to offer to get the best return on investment. Similarly, cloud users need to understand the workload to be deployed into the cloud, plan the deployment in a cost-effective way, or ascertain the flexibility and service quality provided by different cloud environments and use this to decide their deployment strategy. Analytics can play a pivotal role in all these scenarios. By gathering insights from the large amount of data from the cloud, providers and consumers can develop analytic approaches to achieving their objectives despite the scale that clouds provide.

The purpose of this workshop is to provide a forum for researchers with expertise ranging from modeling to systems architecture to exchange ideas, and share their experiences in developing analytics to better deploy, operate and use the cloud. Specifically, we wish to foster research contributions that draw on statistical analysis, analytical modeling, and machine learning to develop novel solutions applicable to management in cloud data centers.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone that helped make this workshop a success: the sponsors of IC2E, the authors that submitted papers, and our keynote speaker, Irfan Ahmad, from CloudPhysics. We have an exciting program that covers a range of topics. We hope that everyone in attendance enjoys the program, and that you enjoy your stay in Tempe.

Tim Wood and David Irwin