Message from the Steering Co-Chairs

When we launched IPPS eighteen years ago we had no idea that parallel and distributed processing would be ubiquitous throughout the computer industry. As contrasted with special AI machines, which were popular a few years ago but have since disappeared, parallel and distributed processing in its many forms and applications has continued to expand into national laboratories and supercomputing research centers throughout the world. This year set an all time record high in number of submissions of research papers in this ever growing and expanding field.

The “D” for distributed processing was added a few years ago when SPDP joined IPPS to establish IPDPS as a flagship event that nurtures and supports a rich portfolio of interests with participation from researchers throughout the planet. In witness of this fact, we take this opportunity to recognize and applaud Michel Cosnard & Allan Gottlieb who along with Luc Bougé and their team in France organized an event extraordinaire in 2003. This effort represented unprecedented international cooperation, and we believe that what happened at a logistical level exemplifies the level of international cooperation in our community of researchers, allowing us to plan for a return to Europe in 2006.

The Steering Co-Chairs and Committee cannot begin to express the scope of our gratitude to all the volunteers over the past fifteen years. The alumni of chairs and other volunteers have made the conference a huge success. This year, continuing the record of excellence set by his co-chair, David Bader has overseen preparations for this American Southwest version of IPDPS. He has attended to logistics large and small, making him a host for all seasons. David and Michel were aided brilliantly by Burkhard Monien, our program chair from Germany, who with vice-chairs Paul Spirakis, Horst Simon, Per Stenström, and Guang Gao raised the response and paper submission beyond any previous year. In this regard, our thanks also to the publicity co-chairs who helped muster this record response.

We are especially grateful to three alumni chairs – Chip Weems, Patricia Teller, and Kiran Bondalapati – who produced the workshops, tutorials and industrial track components of our program. And we want to credit the newly tapped workshops co-chairs who we hope have only just begun to serve. We take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to another alumni volunteer Nelson Amaral for his unstinting service as Proceedings Chair and for the infrastructure he has created to make it possible to publish workshop papers as part of the conference proceedings. Finally, the conference could never take place without the endless volunteer hours of Susamma Barua, Sally Jelinek, and Bill Pitts who meet with us monthly here in Southern California to assess the progress of the volunteer troops abroad and to help bring together all the resources of our organization. They are part of the continuity of volunteers that keeps our event strong.

Viktor Prasanna George Westrom