Foreword by the Chairman

It is my great pleasure to introduce the proceedings of the International Symposium on Parallel and Distributed Computing ISPDC 2008, 1-5 July 2008 held in Krakow, Poland. This conference is the seventh following the first conference organized in Iasi, Romania. The previous editions of the conference were held in central Europe and were a great success.

The ISPDC conferences have always been a great forum for the timely presentation of research results in parallel and distributed computing. These results have been published worldwide thanks to the co-operation with the IEEE CPS. The value of the timely publication of research results cannot be overestimated.

Current conferences on parallel and distributed computing are being organized in very interesting times, when the supremacy of sequential computing developed due to the increase of processor clock frequencies being impeded by integrated circuits technology problems with processor heat dissipation. Instead of doubling the processor clock speed each year, we now double the number of processor cores on a chip. This presents researchers and designers with new challenges to keep pace with new opportunities for developing parallel and distributed system technology. The results are not trivial, since a tremendous effort is required in most areas of parallel and distributed computing, including processor and system architecture, problems in hardware technology, and problems with the transformation of software design.

Let’s hope that our conference has produced a synergy that includes all of these areas of research.

Here are the details on the paper selection process: There were more than 80 paper submissions from more than 15 countries, including the United States, Canada, India and most of the European states. About 50 papers were selected for presentation as full papers and 11 as posters based on their reviews by the International Program Committee and selected invited reviewers. I would like to thank all of the ISPDC 2008 contributors, the distinguished invited speakers, the Program and Steering Committees, the Organizing Committee and the reviewers for their efforts. Let me also thank our conference sponsors. We should note a relatively high number of contributed papers concerned with parallel and distributed program optimization, which may be recognized as a sign of high estimation of this important domain.

This year ISPDC 2008 conference was co-organized by three Polish academic institutions: Institute of Computer Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Polish-Japanese Institute of Information Technology and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Automatics, Computer Science and Electronics of the AGH University of Science and Technology, whose Chair of Telecommunications was kind to host our conference. It was the honor of the Computer Architecture Group, Chair of Parallel Computing and Chair of Telecommunications from these institutions, respectively, to directly organize the conference.

The venue of the conference, Krakow, an ancient capital of Poland, is the site of one of the oldest European universities. This town is full of historical monuments, has a wonderful atmosphere and offers typical Polish hospitality. Krakow was not destroyed during the Second World War, so all that you see is original with the roots going to the Medieval Ages. The logo of the ISPDC 2008 includes the famous “Lajkonik”, a man on a horse in a Tatar guise, who is a symbol of the determination of the people from the Krakow region who protected their town from foreign attacks during the wars of the past. Independently of its historical merits, Krakow is a site of many contemporary universities, research institutes as well as an important Polish supercomputer center. I hope that the ISPDC 2008 participants will discover the wonders of Krakow and enjoy staying here.

The next ISPDC symposium will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, another important European town rich in cultural heritage. I hope it will be a good continuation of the ISPDC tradition. Let me wish you successful and fruitful conference debates at ISPDC 2009.

Marek Tudruj
General and Program Chair of ISPDC 2008