Foreword

The Message Passing Interface (MPI) has recently emerged as an important standard for performance portable parallel programming. The first MPI Developers Conference was held at the University of Notre Dame in 1995 to provide a forum for users and developers of MPI to share their experiences with — and also to present their ideas about — MPI. There was so much widespread interest and support of the first MPI Developers Conference that the second conference is being held just one year later. As MPI continues to evolve and as its user base continues to grow, there will be a continuing need for a forum such as this to allow members of the MPI user community to interact. The conference is now officially called the “MPI Developers and Users Group Meeting” to more accurately reflect the intentions of the organizers. We hope to make the conference an annual event.

The papers and posters contributed to the conference this year are particularly strong and we wish to thank the authors for their work. The submitted papers fell naturally into several areas (and they are so organized in these proceedings): implementations of MPI, extensions to the existing MPI standard, language issues, applications of MPI, debugging, and performance evaluations. We are especially pleased by the quality and quantity of the applications papers. Ultimately, the requirements for MPI are dictated by the needs of applications and MPI will continue to be useful only as long as it continues to meet those needs.

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Additional information about the conference can be found on the Web at http://www.cse.nd.edu/mpidc96/

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