Jose Fortes and I organized VTDC with the intent to bring together the diverse communities working on virtualization techniques and distributed computing. Our hope is that a forum for sharing ideas and results in these diverse disciplines will stimulate discussion and accelerate work in fields overlapping these two areas. The diversity and high quality of submission justified these hopes – I find the quality of the resulting technical program very exciting! The first three sessions of the workshop explore virtualization challenges from fine-grained analysis of virtual machine management tools to virtual Grids. The last session brings together presentations describing the use of virtualization in various systems and settings and will be concluded by an interactive discussion period brainstorming ideas on requirements and applications of virtualization in distributed computing.

The submission deadlines for the workshop were very tight, giving the authors less than six weeks to prepare and submit the papers. I would therefore like to express my appreciation to all the authors, who worked hard to produce high quality submissions in such a very short time. We received 21 submissions overall, out of which 13 are included in our program. The submissions came from 8 different countries (and 5 continents) turning VTDC into an international venue from the first meeting. I was also happy to see several excellent submissions from industry labs along with strong academic work and hope to see more of this diversity in the future. Such broad participation is a testimony to the appeal and timeliness of the discussion we hope to promote. Best of all, we were delighted with the broad range of subjects addressed by the submissions from low-level virtual machine management analysis to the use of virtualization in managing datacenters, storage systems, and Grids.

Organizing a workshop under such tight deadline conditions would have been impossible without the help of people who have generously contributed their time to making it a success. I would like to thank the program committee who provided timely and insightful reviews as well as an excellent discussion of the papers and produced a strong and exciting program. I would also like to thank the external reviewers: Robert Adams, Tim Freeman, Paul Ruth and Thomas Sandholm, who provided their insight, often working on short deadlines. I would also like to thank Mary Thomas, the SC Workshop Chair for encouraging the submission of the proposal for this workshop and Anne Marie Kelly of IEEE Computer Society for her assistance with the publication of VTDC proceedings in the IEEE CS Digital Library. Last but not least, I thank Jose Fortes for his leadership, good ideas and dedication to creating a forum for virtualization in distributed computing.

We hope that you are as excited as we are about VTDC as a venue for discussion of the impact of virtualization on distributed computing and about the program this year!

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