Message from the General Vice-Chair  
(Workshops Chair)

I am pleased to welcome you to the 2003 IPDPS Workshops. This year we have 19 workshops in our program, bringing together people from all areas of parallel and distributed processing to share their leading-edge ideas and work. Together, the workshops are presenting over 300 technical papers, which is almost three times the number in the main symposium. IPDPS is indeed unusual in having so much activity taking place in a mere five days.

There are many people who have contributed to making this collection of workshops possible. First and foremost are the organizers of the individual workshops themselves. They have written workshop proposals, developed web sites, organized program committees, publicized their calls for papers, handled submissions and reviews, and managed the author notification process. The overhead of organizing an individual workshop is similar to that for a regular conference, only with a smaller final program. Unless you have done this yourself, it is difficult to appreciate the energy that goes into being a workshop organizer – be sure to thank these people for all their dedicated hard work.

If you haven’t organized or helped with a workshop, I encourage you to volunteer for the job! Our workshops need your support. It is a great way to gain experience, make connections, and serve our community! Feel free to approach this year’s organizers to see if you can lend a hand next year. New workshop proposals for next year may also be submitted to the workshops chair. See the IPDPS web site for deadlines. All proposals are reviewed by the existing workshop chairs for potential conflicts of topics.

In addition, there are several people in the IPDPS organization who have contributed mightily to the smooth running of the workshops. As in previous years, Sally Jelinek coordinated production and publication activities, and we thank her with deep gratitude for working with IEEE CS Press to develop the publication instructions for workshop organizers, and for distributing them. She also brought to print the Call for Papers, Call for Participation, Advance Program and IEEE advertisements that help to publicize the workshops.

Working with his French co-chair, Serge Chaumette, once again David Bader supervised general and electronic publicity. We express our gratitude to Anna Marie Brown at the University of New Mexico for her tireless efforts in maintaining the workshop information and links on the conference web site. Publicity is an essential ingredient that brings submissions to our workshop programs, and we are thankful for all of the efforts of this part of our team. She and David also wrote the scripts that enabled the new electronic submission process that was used this year.

The fact that you now hold proceedings in your hand is the result of the efforts of our proceedings chair, Jose Nelson Amaral and his assistant, Robert Lake at the University of Alberta, and Bob Werner
and Thomas Baldwin of IEEE CS Press. We thank them for the hours they have invested in managing the file upload server, and the assembly, scheduling and production of the many bits and pieces that turn the technical content of the workshops into an organized and embellished CD volume and abstract book.

Bill Pitts, our finance chair, has done his usual job of both watchdogging and facilitating the financial aspects of the workshops. Susamma Barua, as local arrangements chair, worries about all of the logistics involving the space, audio-visual equipment, refreshments, signage, and so on. This year, she has had the able assistance of Luc Bougé and Marie-Hélène Zeitoun, who as local organizers in Nice have handled all of the interface with the Acropolis Conference Center, interpreting [literally] the complex requirements of the workshops for meeting space and technical support.

The IEEE Computer Society Conference Department provided us with support for registration of attendees. Mary-Kate Rada, Maggie Johnson and Kristine Weiand kept the various logistical aspects running smoothly at the Computer Society end of our efforts.

The General Co-Chairs of IPDPS 2003, Allan Gottlieb and Michel Cosnard, provided valuable feedback on new workshop proposals and have worked together with Program Chair Jack Dongarra to assemble an overall program that greatly enhances our experiences as workshop attendees.

Lastly, we must express our deepest gratitude to the steering co-chairs of IPDPS, Viktor Prasanna, University of Southern California, and George Westrom, Future Scientists & Engineers of America, for their continued support of our efforts and their highly valuable shepherding of so many aspects of the symposium.

Charles Weems