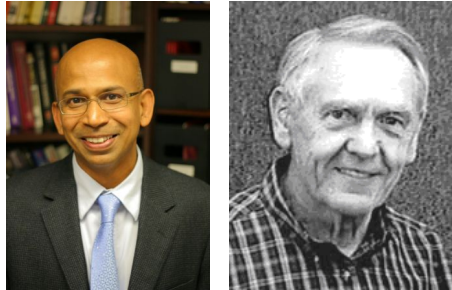


Message from the Steering Co-Chairs



Welcome to Rhodes and to IPDPS 2006. As you may know, the meeting is held outside the US every third year, reflecting the true composition of the community it serves.

We are grateful to the host general chair, Paul Spirakis, for the several years of proposals and preparation that it took to bring us to Greece, and we thank his co-chair, H.J. Siegel, for bringing his template of experience to the tasks of conducting this event. This joint effort started with the organization of a superb group of volunteers whose accomplishments are well documented in previous messages.

The meeting has grown both with respect to the number of submitted papers as well as actual meeting participation. Organizing such an event at a distant location, in this case an island, is not an easy task. And this year presented a number of new challenges, which we can now report have been met with grace and excellence.

To start, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of Sotiris Nikoletseas and his local team in meeting the requirements of our conference while ensuring that IEEE Computer Society guidelines for organizing an event outside the US were strictly adhered to. This was most ably facilitated by the efforts of Bill Pitts, our finance chair, who implemented and oversaw an entirely new system for conference registration. Together Sotiris and Bill have sorted out the many contract and finance issues to support the success of this event, and we wish to give them our special thanks.

Arnold Rosenberg, our program chair, had the overwhelming task of handling over five-hundred submissions. Arny's efforts to ensure quality in the midst of what might have become chaos is greatly appreciated. In addition, we are thankful to him for his numerous suggestions to further improve the handling of submissions. We believe we have one of the strongest technical programs ever.

Although the proceedings continue as a publication of the IEEE CS Press, this year we handled production of the proceedings CD and book of abstracts through an alternate vendor. We are indebted to Shoukat Ali, our proceedings chair, whose inestimable effort allowed us to make this change and to once again bring together the regular symposium proceedings as well as those for the workshops in a timely manner.

As noted, we are planning for IPDPS 2009 and 2012 to be held outside the US, and we encourage you to contact us or any of the steering committee members with suggestions for locations and volunteers to lead such efforts.

We hope you enjoy the meeting, the antiquities, and the islands.

IPDPS 2006 Steering Co-Chairs

Viktor Prasanna, University of Southern California

George Westrom, Future Scientists & Engineers of America