

## **Message from the General Vice-Chair**

In addition to the main conference, IPDPS has developed a wide range of additional elements in its annual program. These include 20 workshops, a commercial track with exhibits, presentations, and product tutorials, a general tutorial that is open to all participants, and a set of Birds-of-a-Feather sessions. Together, these elements greatly enrich the overall IPDPS experience for attendees. They also extend the program into a full five days and several evenings, and they expand the size of the IPDPS community to make it a larger and more vibrant intellectual gathering.

It takes many hands to organize these diverse activities, and ensure that they run smoothly. I would like to offer my thanks and gratitude to the following people for all of their hard work. The many workshops are made possible by Alan Sussman and Yuanyuan Yang, together with a host of organizers for each of the workshops. The commercial track owes its success to the efforts of John Antonio and Theodoros Komninos. Shoukat Ali, our proceedings chair, has discovered that the majority of his work is in handling the hundreds of workshop papers! Production chair Sally Jelinek works tirelessly to assemble all of the pieces of our program into advertising and both electronic and printed programs. The local arrangements co-chairs, Susamma Barua, Rozina Efstathiadou, and Lena Gourdoupi, take care of scheduling the many rooms, A/V equipment, and signs that are needed for all of our different events. And Bill Pitts is the dedicated finance chair who crunches the numbers that keep the whole endeavor afloat. As you encounter these folks around the conference, please take a moment to thank them. Volunteers are largely fueled by praise and the satisfaction of knowing that their work is appreciated. Let's all make sure that our excellent team of volunteers are aware of the gratitude that we feel for what they have done to make IPDPS the superb event that it is!

### **IPDPS 2006 General Vice-Chair**

Charles Weems

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