
Preface

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Biographical notes: D.S. Katz received his PhD from Northwestern University in 1994. He is currently Director for Cyberinfrastructure and User Services in the Center for Computation & Technology (CCT), and Adjunct Associate Research Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Louisiana State University. Prior to this he was a Principal at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and a Computational Scientist at Cray Research, Inc. His research interests are in parallel and distributed computing applications.

In November 2005, about 450 delegates participated in the 6th IEEE/ACM International Workshop on Grid Computing (Grid2005). This workshop was held over one and one half days as part of the SC05 meeting in Seattle. This workshop series has grown over time, in submissions, accepted papers, and attendance, and is now one of the most highly regarded meetings on Grid computing. In fact, this growth has pushed the event beyond the size and scope of a normal SC workshop, and starting in 2006, the workshop will be transformed into a full conference, with the 2006 event taking place in Barcelona (see <http://grid2006.org/> for details).

This growth of GridXY over the history of the series, and particularly the growth in attendance and submissions to the 2005 workshop, has been partly due to the accumulated hard work of both the Steering Committee (Mark Baker, Rajkumar Buyya, Craig Lee, Manish Parashar, and Heinz Stockinger) and this year's organisers: General Chair, Wolfgang Gentzsch; Program Chair, Daniel S. Katz; Program Vice Chairs, Henri Casanova (scheduling, resource management), Marty Humphrey (tools, software, middleware), Olle Mulmo (networking, security, infrastructure) Heinz Stockinger (data grids), Alan Sussman (applications); Publicity Chair, Cho-Li Wang; and Proceedings Chair, Joseph C. Jacob.

However, the organisers did not act alone in making this meeting successful. The rest of the credit for the meeting goes to the contributors, reviewers, and attendees, who created a diverse and stimulating environment for those from commercial, academic, and government backgrounds.

Grid2005 had a very strong technical program, and was the most selective of any of the previous Grid workshops,

with 32 full papers (an 18% acceptance rate) and 18 poster papers being selected from the 175 papers that were submitted. Each paper was reviewed by at least three program committee members, and was discussed in a meeting of the program organisers.

The strength of the program, and the fact that there was a clear grouping of scores by the technical program committee, made it quite easy to choose a short list of what were considered the six best papers, which were presented in a plenary session at the workshop. These six papers cover data grids, networking, infrastructure, security, middleware, applications, and resource management. The authors of these papers were asked to extend their papers and resubmit them for inclusion in this special issue.

In addition to the plenary session of these six papers, the Grid2006 workshop included a keynote presentation by Dennis Gannon 'Research challenges for the next generation of grid systems', a poster session/reception with 18 short papers that the program committee thought would be better presented as poster, the remaining 26 accepted full papers, and a concluding panel session called "What will grids look like in five years?"

Readers are invited to participate in future meetings in this series, including Grid2006, to be held in Barcelona in September 2006, and Grid2007, to be held in Austin in September 2007. Further information on this series of events can be found at <http://www.gridcomputing.org/>.

Finally, I would like to thank all the people involved in Grid2005, including the organisers, reviewers, contributors, and most of all, the program vice-chairs, who did more work than they expected when they agreed to take on their positions.