

**Workshop Description:**

Techniques based on metaheuristics and nature-inspired paradigms can provide efficient solutions to a wide variety of problems. Moreover, parallel and distributed metaheuristics can be used to provide more powerful problem solving environments in a variety of fields, ranging, for example, from finance to bio- and health-informatics. This workshop seeks to provide an opportunity for researchers to explore the connection between metaheuristics and the development of solutions to problems that arise in operations research, parallel computing, telecommunications, and many others.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- Nature-inspired methods (e.g. ant colonies, GAs, cellular automata, DNA and molecular computing, local search, etc) for problem solving environments.
- Parallel and distributed metaheuristics techniques (algorithms, technologies and tools).
- Applications combining traditional parallel and distributed computing and optimization techniques as well as theoretical issues (convergence, complexity, etc).
- Other algorithms and applications relating the above mentioned research areas.

**General Chairs:**

Albert Y. Zomaya, The University of Sydney, Australia

Fikret Ercal, University of Missouri, Rolla, USA

**Program Co-chairs:**

El-ghazali Talbi, Lab d'Informatique Fondam. de Lille, France

Enrique Alba, University of Málaga, Spain

**Program Committee:**

Azzedine Boukerche, University of Ottawa, Canada

Martin Middendorf, University of Leipzig, Germany

Pascal Bouvry, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Michelle D. Moore, Texas A & M - Corpus Christi, USA

Juergen Branke, University of Karlsruhe, Germany

G. Spezzano, University of Calabria, Italy

Erick Cantú-Paz, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA

Franciszek Seredynski, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

Tarek El-Ghazawi, George Washington University, USA

Marco Tomassini, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Nordine Melab, University of Lille, France