

## **Chairman's Welcome and Acknowledgements**

Welcome to the AAAI-99 & GECCO-99 Workshop on Data Mining with Evolutionary Algorithms: Research Directions. The main motivation for the workshop is to discuss research integrating two areas, namely data mining and evolutionary algorithms. The workshop consists of six paper presentations, which will promote interesting discussions and exchange of ideas among the attendees. These papers were selected by an international programme committee, consisting of experts in the above two areas.

I would like to thank several people who helped me to organize this workshop. First of all, I thank the AAAI-99 and the GECCO-99 programme committee for selecting and sponsoring this workshop. In particular, I thank David Leake and Eric Griffith, from AAAI, and Annie Wu, from GECCO, who have always promptly answered my questions about the workshop logistics and regulations. I also thank all the members of the programme committee, all of them very busy people, for making the time to do the paper reviews. Finally, I thank the Brazilian government's National Council of Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) for giving me a research grant (process No. 300153/98-8) to perform research on data mining with evolutionary algorithms, which contributed for my motivation to organize this workshop.

Alex A. Freitas  
PUC-PR  
PPGIA – CCET  
Rua Imaculada Conceicao, 1155  
Curitiba – PR, 80215-901. Brazil.  
Tel./fax: ++55 +41 330-1669  
E-mail: alex@ppgia.pucpr.br  
Web page: <http://www.ppgia.pucpr.br/~alex>

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