Preface

Constraint programming is a very successful fifth-generation software technology with a wide range of applications. It has attracted a large community of researchers that is particularly strong in Europe.

In particular, constraint programming is the focus of the Working Group on Constraints of the European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics (ERCIM) as well as a major interest of the European Network on Computational Logic (CoLogNET). These groups jointly sponsored a workshop on Constraint Satisfaction and Constraint Logic Programming (CSCLP 2004) held June 23–25 at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland. It was hosted by the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the EPFL, which is also a member of both groups.

This book presents a collection of papers that are either revised and extended versions of papers accepted at the workshop, or were submitted in response to the open call for papers that followed. The 15 papers in this volume were selected from 30 submissions by rigorous peer review.

The editors would like to take the opportunity to thank all authors and reviewers for the hard work they contributed to producing this volume. We also thank ERCIM and CoLogNET for their support of the workshop and the field of constraint programming in general. We hope the reader will find this volume helpful for advancing their understanding of issues in constraint programming.

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Boi Faltings
Adrian Petcu
François Fages
Francesca Rossi