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Professor James Demmel Receives
Charles Babbage Award at IPDPS 2013

Prof James Demmel, the Wednesday Keynote Speaker at IPDPS 2013 was given the conference's annual Charles Babbage Award on May 22nd following his keynote speech at the Wednesday morning plenary session. Prof. Demmel is the *Dr. Richard Carl Dehmel Distinguished Professor* in the Department of Mathematics, Computer Science Division at the University of California at Berkeley. The award was presented to Dr Demmel *in recognition of his innovative contributions to the development of linear algebra algorithms and software*.

In 1989, the conference established the Charles Babbage Award to be given each year to a conference participant in recognition of exceptional contributions to the field. It was named for Charles Babbage (26 December 1791 – 18 October 1871), an English mathematician, philosopher, inventor and mechanical engineer who originated the concept of a programmable computer and was considered a "father" of the computer.

The award, presented by the conference steering co-chairs, Viktor K. Prasanna and George B. Westrom, has been given every year except one since 1989. A look at past awardees includes names of individuals who have gone on to other accomplishments but who remain an active part of the IPDPS community. IPDPS is an annual conference for engineers and scientists to present recent findings in the fields of parallel processing and distributed computing and is sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society's Technical Committee on Parallel Processing (TCPP). It began in 1986 as the Orange County Parallel Processing Conference, before being renamed as the International Parallel Processing Symposium (IPPS). In 1998, the Symposium on Parallel and Distributed Systems (SPDP) merged with IPPS and in 2000, the conference took the now familiar name of IPDPS.

More information including a list of previous awardees is available at the IPDPS Website.