**Special Session : Cloud Computing**

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Cloud Computing is one of the most talked about emerging technology trends today for its potential to be a "disruptive" technology. It has started to obtain mass appeal in corporate data centers as it enables the data center to operate like the Internet through the process of enabling computing resources to be accessed and shared as virtual resources in a secure and scalable manner. The research in the field of cloud technology is exponentially growing and its development is making tremendous impacts in Business Enterprises and Industry. The importance and significance can be gauged by the fact that it has made huge advancements over the course of time and is continuing to influence various sectors. We are soliciting original papers on methodologies, models, technologies, systems, services, tools, applications, work in progress, and experiences that are focused on convergence technologies and applications in the areas of cloud computing and big data. This special session aims to provide a forum that brings together researchers from academia, engineers working in the industries listed above, and the government to meet and exchange ideas on advanced technologies, services, and applications in cloud computing. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

* Data mining techniques for the convergence of cloud computing
* Virtualization in Cloud
* Cloud based Services and Protocols
* Scalability and Performance issues in Cloud
* Hypervisor Security
* Cloud Integrity and Binding Issues
* Security and Privacy in cloud
* Load Balancing in cloud
* Programming Models in Cloud
* Scheduling in Cloud
* Resource Monitoring in Cloud
* Application workflows in Cloud
* Innovative Business Models and Applications of Cloud Computing
* Energy-efficient Cloud Computing for Big Data
* Companies and startup opportunities – how to become a cloud computing provider and how to use cloud computing to add (real) value to business