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Third International Conference, ICIAR 2006
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Proceedings, Part I

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Preface

ICIAR 2006, the International Conference on Image Analysis and Recognition, was the third ICIAR conference, and was held in Póvoa de Varzim, Portugal. ICIAR is organized annually, and alternates between Europe and North America. ICIAR 2004 was held in Porto, Portugal and ICIAR 2005 in Toronto, Canada. The idea of offering these conferences came as a result of discussion between researchers in Portugal and Canada to encourage collaboration and exchange, mainly between these two countries, but also with the open participation of other countries, addressing recent advances in theory, methodology and applications.

The response to the call for papers for ICIAR 2006 was higher than the two previous editions. From 389 full papers submitted, 163 were finally accepted (71 oral presentations, and 92 posters). The review process was carried out by the Program Committee members and other reviewers; all are experts in various image analysis and recognition areas. Each paper was reviewed by at least two reviewers, and also checked by the conference Co-chairs. The high quality of the papers in these proceedings is attributed first to the authors, and second to the quality of the reviews provided by the experts. We would like to thank the authors for responding to our call, and we wholeheartedly thank the reviewers for their excellent work and for their timely response. It is this collective effort that resulted in the strong conference program and high-quality proceedings in your hands.

We were very pleased to be able to include in the conference program keynote talks by three world-renowned experts: Ling Guan, Electrical and Computer Engineering at Ryerson University, Canada; Mubarak Shah, Agere Chair of Computer Science, University of Central Florida, USA, and John Oommen, School of Computer Science at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to each of them for accepting our invitations.

We would like to thank Khaled Hammouda, the webmaster of the conference, for maintaining the Web pages, interacting with the authors and preparing the proceedings. We would like to thank the conference secretariat for administrative assistance. We would also like to thank members of the Local Organization Committee for their advice and help. We also appreciate the help of the Springer editorial staff, for supporting this publication in the LNCS series.

Finally, we were very pleased to welcome all the participants to this conference. For those who did not attend, we hope this publication provides a good view into the research presented at the conference, and we look forward to meeting you at the next ICIAR conference.

September 2006 Aurélio Campilho, Mohamed Kamel

ICIAR 2006 – International Conference on Image Analysis and Recognition

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