EDITORIAL

Editors' Preface

Francisco Herrera · Cesar Analide

Artificial Intelligence was born more than half a century ago. John McCarthy, who coined the term in 1956, defined it as "the science and engineering of making intelligent machines". Half a century later, Artificial Intelligence, traveling a bumpy road, has made encouraging progress. Nowadays, it is a dynamic field whose theories, methods and techniques constantly find their way into new innovative applications, bringing new perspectives and challenges for research. Today, we can say that Artificial Intelligence is one of the most vibrant, challenging and forward-looking areas of Computer Science.

What a happy day it is for the editors to see the realization of our efforts in launching this new journal. Welcome to the first issue of the journal *Progress in Artificial Intelligence* (PRAI). It was born as an initiative of the Iberian associations on Artificial Intelligence, respectively the Spanish and Portuguese associations, AEPIA and APPIA. It was our honor to accept their invitation to become Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor of the journal.

We are conscious that there are many important journals in Artificial Intelligence, both for general purpose, as the one born here, and for specific purposes. PRAI is intended to be a new brother in the broad community, and to contribute a grain of sand to the dissemination of the important developments in Artificial Intelligence taking place today. The journal goal is not only to show the significant potential of the Iberian community in Artificial Intelligence but also mainly to be a vehicle open for the international community.

This journal was founded with the goal of publishing top-level research results in all aspects of Artificial Intelligence, from foundations to applications that describe the latest research and developments. The journal welcomes research articles, survey articles and position papers, on all Artificial Intelligence topics including: learning and data mining; soft computing and computational intelligence; knowledge, complexity, logic, planning, reasoning and search; agents and multiagent systems; artificial vision and robotics; and natural language and web intelligence.

We are confident that we have assembled a distinguished Board. As editors, we are grateful to the AEPIA and APPIA associations, to our Board members and to Springer for contributing their insights, efforts and reputations to this endeavor. Finally, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of the authors who have made possible this first issue to see the light. With the help of all of you, we are committed to making this a reference journal in the scientific area of Artificial Intelligence.

We would like to invite you, the reader, to actively participate in fulfilling the goals of this journal as a reader, contributor or reviewer. Your feedback, advice, comments and contributions, will be invaluable to the success of this new journal.

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