Editorial

EVERY enjoyable journey comes to an end. Mine as the Editor-in-Chief of this journal started in 2013 and will be completed at the end of this year. I really enjoyed every minute, even though the workload was not light. Along this journey, the number of papers submitted every year increased from about 500 to 1000, but only about one third was accepted. To address the needs of our scientific and professional community, we have been able to increase the number of pages produced each year from 600 to 4500. The appreciation and the reputation of the journal has been continuously growing as shown by the impact factor from 1.746 to 4.463, as well as by the other bibliometric indices.

These results have been possible, thanks to the efforts of the entire Editorial Board, the many dedicated reviewers, and all the authors. From the bottom of my heart, thank you! It has been a true privilege and pleasure to work with all of you! I also would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who helped me in this journey, especially Chris Rezes and George Criscione. Finally, I would like to thank all the officers of the IEEE Systems Council who have been extremely caring for our journal and helpful to me in managing it. All of you will remain in my memory and in my heart. THANK YOU! … and thank you for what you will continue to do for our scientific and professional community!

This last issue of 2019 collects papers on various aspects of complex system design, communications, energy, and ambient intelligence. Papers address various topics encompassing theory, technologies, design methodologies, and applications.

Before closing, I have the pleasure and honor to introduce you the new Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Amir Aghdam. I wish him the best. I am sure that, in his capable hands, our journal will continue to flourish and grow in standing and attractiveness worldwide for the benefit of our scientific and professional community, supporting trustable knowledge dissemination, promoting technical innovation, and economic and social development for the ultimate benefit of the humanity.

If you have any comment, suggestion, recommendation, or criticism about this journal, please do not hesitate to contact the new Editor-in-Chief. Everyone can help in continuously improving our journal. We aim to continue to have a live publication for our live community.

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Vincenzo Pirui (S'84–M'86–SM'96–F'01) received the Ph.D. degree in computer engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy, in 1989.

He has been an Associate Professor with the Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy, and a Visiting Professor with the University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA, and George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA. Since 2000, he has been a Full Professor in computer engineering with the Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy, where he has been the Director of the Department of Information Technology (2007–2012). His original results have been published in more than 400 papers in international journals, proceedings of international conferences, books, and book chapters. His current research interests include artificial intelligence, intelligent systems, theory and industrial applications of neural networks, machine learning, signal and image processing, pattern analysis and recognition, biometrics, intelligent measurement systems, industrial applications, fault tolerance, digital processing architectures, embedded systems, arithmetic architectures, cloud computing, and Internet-of-Things.

Dr. Piuri is a Distinguished Scientist of ACM, and a Senior Member of INNS. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE SYSTEMS JOURNAL (2013–2019) and is/has been an Associate Editor of the IEEE TRANSATIONS ON COMPUTERS, IEEE TRANSATIONS ON CLOUD COMPUTING, IEEE COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE MAGAZINE, IEEE TRANSATIONS ON NEURAL NETWORKS, and IEEE TRANSATIONS ON INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT. He has been the 2015 IEEE Vice President for Technical Activities, IEEE Director (2010–2012, 2015), President of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society (2006–2007), Vice President for Publications of the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society (2002–2004) and the IEEE Systems Council (2008–2011), Vice President for Membership of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society (2003–2004), and Vice President for Education of the IEEE Biometrics Council (2008–2009). He was the recipient of the IEEE Systems Council Outstanding Service Award (2018) for his contribution to the Systems Council, in particular as the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE SYSTEMS JOURNAL, and the IEEE Technical Activity Board Hall of Honor (2019), for having promoted holistic cooperation within TAB and with other IEEE Organizational Units, and the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society Technical Award (2002) for the contributions to the advancement of theory and practice of computational intelligence in measurement systems and industrial applications. He has been an Honorary Professor with Obuda University, Hungary, since 2014, Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology, China, since 2014, Muroran Institute of Technology, Japan, since 2016, and Amity University, India, since 2017.

Amir Aghdam (S'96–M'00–SM'05) received the Ph.D. degree in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada, in 2000.

He is currently a Professor with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Concordia University, Montreal, QC, Canada. He was a Visiting Scholar with Harvard University in fall 2015, and was an Associate with the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences from September 2015 to December 2016. His research interests include multiagent networks, distributed control, sensor networks, optimization, and sampled-data systems.

Dr. Aghdam is a member of Professional Engineers Ontario and the Chair of the Conference Editorial Board of IEEE Control Systems Society. He was an Associate Editor of the IEEE TRANSATIONS ON CONTROL SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY, *European Journal of Control*, IEEE ACCESS, *IET Control Theory and Applications*, and the *Canadian Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering.* He has been a member of the Technical Program Committee of a number of conferences, including the IEEE Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (IEEE SMC) and the IEEE Multiconference on Systems and Control (IEEE MSC). He was a member of the Review Panel/Committee for the National Science Foundation, Italian Research and University Evaluation Agency (ANVUR), Innovation Fund Denmark Projects, and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada ECE Evaluation Group. He was the 2014–2015 President of IEEE Canada and Director (Region 7), IEEE, Inc., and was also a member of the IEEE Awards Board for this period. He was also a member of IEEE Medal of Honor Committee from 2017 to 2019.