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President's Farewell Message



As I write my final *President's Message*, I can't help but feel a sense of overwhelming honor and privilege in having served as the President of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society (your Society!) during the past two years. Personally, it has been a rewarding experience, having had the opportunity to meet and to talk to so many smart and ambitious people, who also happened to be dedicated volunteers and members of our Society.

For our Society, it has been by all standards a period of continued active involvement and excellence. Following the historic transition of our technical community from the *IEEE Neural Networks Council*, to the *IEEE Neural Networks Society* and eventually to the *IEEE Computational Intelligence Society*, our membership has continued to grow, currently consisting of approximately 7,000 members worldwide. During these past two years, I have noticed more and more researchers indicating our Society as their technical research base, a home for their publications, their conferences, their network of research collaborators. Furthermore, we are able to attract more graduate students and young researchers to our community, which provides a great potential for the future of our Society.

During the past two years, I have heard more and more people identifying their research as "computational intelligence," instead of specifically neural networks, fuzzy systems or evolutionary computation. I believe this transition to the umbrella of computational intelligence is very important for our research community, as we strive to establish computational intelligence as a key technology for the design and analysis of intelligent systems. In this framework, it is envisioned that computational intelligence is not merely a set of advanced tools for writing research papers, but it represents foundational knowledge that graduating engineers and computer scientists should be familiar with as they enter the workforce and have to deal with the representation, visualization and analysis of data-rich environments, as well as the design of real-time decision making algorithms in a variety of application domains.

It is my pleasure that my term as President of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society is followed by the upcoming presidency of Professor Xin Yao, who I am confident will lead the Society to new heights. I wish all the members of our community the very best in their personal and professional endeavours.



IEEE CIS President Marios Polycarpou sharing a drink with the previous CIS President Gary Yen (left) and the next CIS President Xin Yao (right).

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