President's Message

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To All Members of the Computational Intelligence Community

It will be my great honor to serve as the president of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society in 2020–2021. I am thankful to all those who have placed their trust in me to continue the great work done by the former presidents to develop the activity and the visibility of the IEEE CIS and to reinforce service to all its members.

My perception is that the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society is both a scientific entity and a community of women and men. From a scientific point of view, the IEEE CIS is a home for all researchers and practitioners working on neural networks, learning systems, fuzzy systems, evolutionary computation, adaptation paradigms and other nature-inspired computing topics. Many of the techniques developed in the IEEE CIS are at the core of currently trending artificial intelligence realizations. In addition to fundamental research topics, IEEE CIS technical committees and their task forces address application domains which cover most intelligent systems important to the industry and real-world key issues. We can list, among others, datamining and big data analytics, web intelligence, affective computing, energy and smart grid, computer vision, audio processing, aerospace sciences, brain informatics, robotics, cybersecurity, bioinformatics and bioengineering, health, finance, business intelligence, astronomy, games and smart world.

The most important aspect, from my point of view, is the fact that the IEEE CIS is a community, a group of scientists of all experience levels, from students to fellows, interested in theory or applications, from academia or industry, working in all parts of the world. They share a common area of interest. They have the same capacity to promote Computational Intelligence and to move the IEEE CIS forward.

Chapters and student branches bring members of the IEEE CIS, belonging to the same local environment, together. Their chairs are both representatives of the IEEE CIS in local sections and delegates of their country, city or academia to the IEEE CIS structure. It is of the utmost importance to have active chapter chairs and student branch chairs, stimulating research and development of Computational Intelligence around them as well as fostering local cooperations, international relations and expansion of their community. I am very grateful to all of them for their continued effort and their commitment to the IEEE CIS members. I depend on all of you. I depend on members of active chapters to continue to make the IEEE CIS a vibrant community. I depend on members of inactive chapters to ask for elections and elect a dynamic board. I also depend on members of the IEEE CIS in parts of the world where there is no chapter, to create them and make them a success.

Our conferences and journals are the most visible parts of our activities. All of them reflect the technical advances in the field of Computational Intelligence and serve as a liaison to the whole community. I express my deep appreciation to the CIS Editors-in-chief who work every day for the quality of our Transactions and

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FIGURE 8 What would an event in New Orleans be without a "traveling" New Orleans Brass Band. They led the banquet attendees out at the end.

Technological University, and the University of Nottingham for their important sponsorship. Finally, we are pleased that the One World Alliance signed on to be the official travel partner for FUZZ-IEEE.

We believe that everyone had an inspiring experience at FUZZ-IEEE 2019, and that all our attendees and their friends had a great time in the Big Easy. Laissez les bon temps rouler!

Let's all meet for the next successful edition of FUZZ-IEEE as part of WCCI 2020 in Glasgow, Scotland.

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Magazine. I am also extremely grateful to the general chairs, program chairs and other members of conference organizing committees who undertake the responsibility of hosting their colleagues with high-level quality scientific programs and enjoyable social gatherings. Conferences enable us to get together at least once a year. Please join one of the ten congresses and conferences sponsored by the IEEE CIS in 2020. In particular, I will be happy to see you in Glasgow, UK, for IEEE WCCI 2020, July 19–24 (wcci2020.org) and in Canberra, Australia, for IEEE SSCI 2020, December 1–4 (ieeessci2020.org).

Of all aspects of living together in the Computational Intelligence community, I would like to focus on two of the most important ones to me: the place of women and the emergence of young generations, the two being intertwined. Since the inception of the Women in Computational Intelligence Committee in 2004, the IEEE CIS has constantly promoted the right of its women members to have the same opportunities as men in their scientific life and in the Society life. We strive to build diverse committees and editorial boards, and aim to put forth candidate lists that are representative in terms of gender. To increase the number of women in the IEEE CIS, it is important to have more girls attracted to the topics we work on. All efforts will be done to develop innovative summer schools or activities along the year for high school students, in order to make Computational Intelligence appealing to both girls and boys and to make them aware of the involvement of Computational Intelligence in all aspects of our modern life, including the most sophisticated.

Relations with industry are also among my priorities, as they achieve several of the goals I discussed above. They contribute to show that Computational Intelligence is at the core of many industrial artificial intelligence successes. They attract the young generation, excited by modern real-world applications. They propose challenges to researchers who have to cope with the complexity of the real world, the size and the speed of digital data, the necessary security and ethics of devices and communications, and the request of sustainable development, to cite but a few of the issues in Computational Intelligence applications. A convincing way to prove the quality of our research is to show its success in real-world applications, such as aerospace engineering, robots, biomedical engineering, eldercare or brain-computer interfaces, for instance. The IEEE CIS technical challenge on fraud detection, organized last year, was a spectacular proof of the interest of researchers for industrial challenges. It will be my great pleasure to see a new CIS industry-focused conference launched next year, please stay tuned!

I will be remotely present for all of you during the next two years. Do not hesitate to share with me any real-world realization or success story, any original initiative for kids or, more generally, for education, any successful activity of your chapter, any action to improve women's involvement in the CIS activities. I strongly believe that, by sharing our experiences, we can all together make the CIS even more responsive to its members' needs and wishes. Feel free to send me any suggestion or question at b.bouchon-meunier@ieee.org.