

EIC MESSAGE

I AM pleased to report that the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON EMERGING TOPICS IN COMPUTING (TETC) has had a very resounding success in 2014, and 2015 looks even better. As an inaugural Editor-in-Chief (EIC), my focus in the past years of leadership has been directed along the following strategic initiatives.

1. Publicizing TETC across different communities and countries to allow diversity in technical coverage of the computing field with Guest Editors of the highest caliber and impact. In most cases, at least one of the Guest Editors of each advertised Special Issue/Section (SIS) of TETC is an IEEE Fellow.
2. Flexible scheduling of SISs in terms of allocated time by *ensuring* the planned publication of the periodical. This flexibility has been accomplished by consistently having a degree of redundancy in the advertisement of the SISs. No significant impact on publication flow has been encountered up to this date.
3. Overcoming the often perceived but erroneous misconception that independently of the publisher and its reputation, every Only-Open Access (OOA) publication will accept most if not all submissions, because payment of the OA fee is ultimately needed for its fiscal vitality, i.e., not allowing to lower the acceptance standards for profits. A strict policy has been put in place across all SISs to ensure both a professional review and an acceptance rate of at most 25%, so very competitive with other Transactions of the IEEE Computer Society, has been mandated as an initial goal of the peer-review process.

TETC has currently in place a publication calendar of SISs that extends *well* into 2016 (refer to the list at <http://www.computer.org/portal/web/tetc>). These SISs cover a multitude of areas in computing and applicative fields. The increasing number of submissions (nearly 500 in the 18 months of its publication existence) has also created new opportunities; so continuing in 2015, TETC is further expanding its operations to other activities beyond the initial publication mode of SISs only. Having now in place a very extensive publication schedule for future SISs, manuscripts in specific emerging topics (referred to as *tracks*) have been and will continue to be accommodated. TETC is continuing the publication of submitted articles in technical tracks for specific emerging areas as well as targeting activities in different parts of the world. In this respect, two Associate Editors (AEs) have been appointed late in 2014; these colleagues (Prof N. Kato, AE for Far East Asia and Prof S. Guo, AE for computational networks) have been

selected based on their contribution in the past to very successful SISs in TETC. Additional AE appointments are in progress to enlarge the number of tracks of TETC and the diverse representation in gender, geographic areas, and technical expertise, thus further expanding the publication activities of TETC on a worldwide basis. In this respect, I am glad to report that as AE, Dr. E Kursun of JP Morgan will be covering the Enterprise Computing Track.

The introduction of tracks has also implication on the paper submission process; the review of manuscripts (so, in addition to the SISs) will be only permitted within the scopes of the existing tracks. Prospective authors are alerted to take advantages of these new opportunities by selecting the appropriate AEs when submitting their manuscript. Manuscript not directed to a specific track or an open SIS will likely be administratively rejected as out of scope.

Indexing by organizations, such as Web of Science and Thomson Reuters, is a recurrent concern that potential authors have often pointed out to me. Most of these organizations review new publications in that periodical's third year. As TETC is in its third year in 2015, it will undergo review at this time. Moreover, I am confident that, consistent with all IEEE periodicals, TETC will successfully pass this review; if accepted for indexing, then all articles of TETC back to volume 1, issue 1, will be included in the index. So, this is a normal process to be undertaken by any new periodical, and as I said previously, TETC has all the necessary qualities and will be indexed with the highest probability (if not certainty) as attested by all other periodicals of the IEEE and the Computer Society.

Probably the most significant change that 2015 is bringing is that TETC is now operating under a hybrid publication mode, so it is in line with other peer-reviewed publications sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society. OOA has been successfully implemented in 2013–2014, but it has been noticed that a few communities have not fully embraced it. So, as a vehicle for global and highest knowledge distribution, TETC is changing to allow a more inclusive community that transcends the financial implications of OOA. I expect this change to have a substantial impact on the number of submitted manuscripts; however, this will also likely result in a further decrease of the acceptance rate from the existing 25% level, thus making TETC one of the most competitive publications in the portfolio of the IEEE Computer Society. Obviously, only the manuscripts with the highest review scores will be selected for publication; I understand that many authors could be disappointed by a negative outcome for their works. However, be reassured that within a strictly fair review

process, this is of primary importance to raise the technical level and impact of TETC as a publication with the highest aspirations.

Last but not the least, I am very sad to report the untimely death of Prof. Ivan Stojmenovic. His photo and biographical note can be found at the end of my message. Ivan was a great scholar, educator, and friend. He contributed to TETC as well as many other IEEE publications; he will be missed.

In conclusion, do not hesitate to contact me on any matters related to TETC; I am particularly receptive to proposals of

SIS in topical areas with innovative themes that have not yet appeared in TETC as well as technical tracks. I look forward to your contributions, in particular, to facilitate any aspect that would be helpful in fostering your professional and technical growth with TETC.

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IVAN STOJMENOVIC received the Ph.D. degree in mathematics. He held regular and visiting positions in Serbia, Japan, USA, Canada, France, Mexico, Spain, U.K. (as the Chair in Applied Computing with the University of Birmingham, Birmingham, U.K.), Hong Kong, Brazil, China, and Taiwan, and is currently a Full Professor with the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada. He published over 300 different papers, and edited seven books on wireless, ad hoc, sensor and actuator networks, and applied algorithms with Wiley. He was an Editor of over dozen journals, the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON PARALLEL AND DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS (from 2010 to 2013), and the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of three journals (the *Journal of Multiple-Valued Logic and Soft Computing*, the *International Journal of Power Electronics and Drive Systems*, and *Ad Hoc & Sensor Wireless Networks*). He is one of about 250 computer science researchers with an H-index of at least 50 and has over 15000 citations. He received four best paper awards and the Fast Breaking Paper (for article on broadcasting in ad hoc networks, cited over 600 times) by Thomson ISI ESI in 2003. An ESI Special Topics

listed him #3 in papers, #9 in cites/paper, and #20 in total cites among all authors Wireless/Mobile Networks 1995–2005. He was a recipient of the Royal Society Research Merit Award in U.K. He is a fellow of the Communications Society in 2008, and was the IEEE CS Distinguished Visitor 2010–2012. He received the Excellence in Research Award from the University of Ottawa in 2009. He chaired and organized over 60 workshops and conferences, and served in over 200 program committees. He presented over dozen tutorials. His stateless Greedy-Face-Greedy algorithm, which guarantees delivery in a localized manner, assuming a unit graph model and accurate destination information, has changed the way routing algorithms for ad hoc networks are being designed and has been cited over 1500 times. It was implemented in a number of laboratories worldwide.