Editorial

James Joshi

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HAPPY new year, 2020! Personally, and on behalf of the Editorial Board of *IEEE Transactions on Services Computing* (*TSC*), I wish all the readers and the *Services Computing* research community a very successful, and prosperous new year.
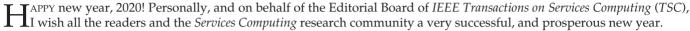
TSC has continued to grow steadily since its establishment in 2008. It has established itself as a globally renowned, highly impactful and the leading venue for publishing research work within the themes of *Services Computing*. It has been my great privilege to serve as its EIC since 2017. And I am honored to have been reappointed as its EIC for the second term starting in 2020 so that I can continue serving the broader services computing community.

It is my great pleasure to report that the reputation of *TSC* has continued in its growth over the past year. Among the key metrics of journal reputation are the *impact factors* (IFs) and *ranking*, and in both of these measures, *TSC* has made significant gains last year. The IF has increased to 5.707 from the IFs of 4.418 and 3.520 of the previous two years, respectively. The *5-year impact factor* has jumped to 5.646 from that of 4.474 and 3.384 of the previous two years, respectively. Its *IEEE rank* has jumped to the 37th position from the earlier ranks of 38th and 53th positions, of the previous two years respectively. The number of submissions has also continued to grow each year. The growth in *IFs* and *ranking*, and the increasing number of submissions indicate the further gains in the global reputation of the journal and the amazing work done by all the current and past EB members, and reviewers; all of them have volunteered their precious time amidst very busy schedules to support and contribute to the growth of this journal. Thanks to all for the invaluable support to *TSC* and I hope to seek your continued engagement for the further growth of *TSC*.

We have also made some changes in the Editorial Board (EB) since the start of the last year. On behalf of the community and the EB, I would like to thank the following distinguished Associate Editors who left the EB in 2019, after providing several years of excellent service to the *TSC* community: Dr. Calton Pu (Georgia Institute of Technology, USA), Dr. Adam Barker (University of St. Andrews, UK), Dr. Stefan Tai (TU-Berlin, Germany), Dr. Toru Ishida (Kyoto University, Japan), James Caverlee (Texas A&M University, USA) and Dr. Keqin Li (State University of New York, USA). We also start the new year with some new EB members. On behalf of the entire *TSC* community, I would like to welcome the following new esteemed AE members: Dr. Indrajit Ray (Colorado State University, USA and National Science Foundation); Dr. Yohei Murakami (Ritsumeikan University, Japan), Dr. Joseph Kai Sui Liu (Monash University, Australia), and Dr. Flavia Coimbra Delicato (Fluminense Federal University, Brazil). The bios and photos of the new AEs are included below.

While the TSC reputation and quality have seen the steady growth, one key area we still need improvement is the turnaround time for the journal submissions. *Reducing* the submission-to-decision/publication time for submitted manuscripts will continue to be our highest priority in the coming days. Since last year, we have tried to balance the publication of past special issues and the approval of new special issues to manage the backlog that we had. In 2019, we published the following four special issues focused on current and emerging research areas: *Services and Software Engineering Towards Internet-ware*, *Virtualization and Services for Cloud-Based Applications and Systems*, *Data-Centric Big Services*, *Advances in Web Services Researcha dna Edge/For Computing and Services*. Three special issues that are forthcoming this year are: *Cloud Computing for Big Data Applications*, *Holistic Technologies for Managing Internet of Things Services*, and *Blockchain-Based Services Computing*. We had also started to emphasize *further strengthening* of closer relationships with several relevant conferences to broaden the *TSC* community and encourage submissions from a broader community. Informal relationships with newer conferences where the EB members are active have already started to form. We continue our efforts in these areas.

Overall, it is my honor to be part of the continued success of *TSC* last year. This would not have been possible without the continued support and engagement of the authors, readers, reviewers, and *TSC* EB. Special thanks also go to the staff of the IEEE and the IEEE Computer Society, especially Ms. Christine Shaughnessy, Ms. Jennifer Carruth, Ms. Erin M. Espriu, and Ms. Kimberly Sperka for their invaluable support as well as timely help and guidance.

I look forward to exploring ways to further enhance the reputation and impact of our journal. I would love to hear your suggestions and comments, and I hope to have your continued support.

James Joshi
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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Flavia C. Delicato received the PhD degree in electrical engineering from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), in 2005 and her Doctoral Thesis was selected as one of the six best in the year by the Brazilian Computer Society. She is currently an associate professor with the Institute of Computing of the Fluminense Federal University (IC-UFF), in Brazil. She joined IC-UFF, in 2019 moving from UFRJ, where she worked as an adjunct and then associate professor from March 2011 – July 2019. Before that she was an adjunct professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN), since 2006. Her primary research interests include middleware for edge computing and the Internet of Things, service-oriented wireless sensor networks and sensor virtualization. Her major contributions recently have been in resource management for edge computing and IoT. Other areas in which she has made valuable contributions are in applying SOA and MDD for building ubiquitous systems. She has published two books and more than 180 technical papers. Her research has been well funded through various federal agencies. She has advised several master and PhD students many of whom hold tenured positions in academia. She has also played leadership roles in the academic community by serving as general chair and program chairs in various conferences. She is a Level 1 researcher fellow of CNPq, has worked as a reviewer of more than 30 international journals and as a member of program committees of several Brazilian and International conferences. She is currently a member of the Editorial Boards of several international journals.

Dr. Joseph Liu received the PhD degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, in 2004. He is currently an associate professor in the Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University. Prior to joining Monash in 2015, he has worked as a research scientist at Institute for Infocomm Research (I2R) in Singapore for more than seven years. His research areas include cyber security, blockchain, IoT security, applied cryptography, and privacy enhanced technology. He has received more than 7000 citations and his H-index is 47, with more than 200 publications in top venues such as CRYPTO and ACM CCS. He is currently the lead of the Monash Cyber Security Discipline Group. He has established the Monash Blockchain Technology Centre in 2019 and serves as the founding director. His remarkable research in linkable ring signature forms the theory basis of Monero (XMR), one of the largest cryptocurrencies in the world with current market capitalization more than US$1 billion. He has been given the Dean's Award for Excellence in Research Impact, in 2018, and the prestigious ICT Researcher of the Year 2018 Award by the Australian Computer Society (ACS), the largest professional body in Australia representing the ICT sector, for his contribution to the blockchain and cyber security community.

Dr. Indrajit Ray (Senior Member, IEEE) received the PhD degree in information technology from George Mason University, in August 1997. He is currently a professor of computer science with Colorado State University. His primary research is in computer security and privacy with major contributions being in security risk modeling and management, and security protocol design using applied cryptographic techniques. Other areas in which he has made valuable contributions are trust models for security and micro-data disclosure control. He has published more than 150 technical papers. His research has been well funded through various federal agencies. He has advised several PhD students many of whom hold tenured positions in academia. He has also played leadership roles in the academic community by serving as program chairs in various conferences. In 2015 he served as general chair of the 2015 ACM CCS conference which is the flagship conference of ACM SIGSAC, and in 2017 as the general chair of the 2017 IEEE CNS conference. He was the founder of the IFIP TC 11, WG 11.9 on Digital Forensics and its first chair. Recently, he has helped establish the CSU site of the NSF funded I/UCRC Center for Configuration Analytics and Automation, where he is co-director. This multi-university research center that includes fee-paying members from the industry and Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, works with enterprises and government entities to improve service assurability, security and resiliency of enterprise IT systems, cloud/SDN data centers, and cyber-physical systems by applying innovative analytics and automation. Currently, he is serving on a rotator basis as a program director at the US National Science Foundation, where he is jointly responsible for the Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace program. He is a senior member of the ACM.

Dr. Yohei Murakami received the PhD degree in informatics from Kyoto University, in 2006, and subsequently became a researcher at the National Institute of Information and Communication Technology (NICT). He has been an associate professor with the Faculty of Information Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University, since 2018. In 2014, he became an associate professor at Kyoto University to launch an interdisciplinary curriculum for PhD students called Kyoto University Design School. His main research area is services computing and multi-agent systems. He has published more than 25 peer-reviewed papers from international journals and top conferences relevant to Services Computing such as the *IEEE Transactions on Services Computing*, the *IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing*, *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*, IEEE SCC, IEEE ICWS, and ICSOC, since 2008, and received IEEE SCC Best Paper Award, in 2015. Furthermore, he has played a leadership role in the area of Services Computing in Japan and contributed to establishing the Japanese Services Computing community. He founded the Technical Committee on Services Computing in the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE), a sister society of IEEE, in 2009, and has served as the chair of the committee for five years. In addition to these academic activities, he has been engaged in applying services computing to solving social problems. Especially, he has been working on the Language Grid, the first service-oriented infrastructure for language resources that shifted the paradigm from language resources to language services. To establish an interdisciplinary theme between Services Computing area and Language Resource area, he has started an international workshop on Worldwide Language Service Infrastructure (WLSI) and published a book called "Services Computing for Language Resources" from Springer. In 2013, he received the Achievement Award from the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE) for this work.