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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Multimedia for Cooking and Eating Activities

Welcome to the Special Section on Multimedia for Cooking and Eating Activities.

Cooking is one of the most fundamental activities of humankind. It is not only connected with the joy of eating but also deeply affects various aspects of human life such as health, culinary art, entertainment, and human communication. However, due to the aging society, nuclear families, and changes of lifestyles, communication through food, succession of food culture and cooking techniques, health management by meals are gradually becoming difficult. Efforts to solve and support these problems by information technology are now seen everywhere in recent years as various information devices have become popular in ordinary households and daily life. Following this trend, since its establishment in 2006, IEICE Technical Committee on Cooking and Eating Activities (CEA) (Originally, Technical Committee on Cooking Media (CM)) has been aiming to provide an opportunity for such research groups to discover each other, introduce their trials, and discuss their status and where they should go.

Eight years after the publication of the Special Section on Media Technology Surrounding Cooking published in the IEICE Transactions on Fundamentals of Electronics, Communications and Computer Sciences (Japanese edition), this special section aims at a timely dissemination of research in these areas to a broader range of readers including those in the international community.

In response to the Call for Papers, we received submissions of six papers and one letter. After careful review and evaluation by professional reviewers familiar to each research topic and intense discussions among the Special Section Editorial Committee members from various viewpoints, two papers were accepted for publication. Both of the two accepted papers challenge the important topic of understanding food images that will be needed for implementing real-world applications that support Cooking and Eating activities. We hope that the readers find these papers interesting and inspiring, and that they would accelerate the progress of the research field.

On behalf of the Special Section Editorial Committee, we would like to express our sincere appreciations to the authors for their contribution and the reviewers for their professional and voluntary services. We also appreciate the Editorial Boards of both IEICE Transactions on Information and Systems and the Human Communication Group for their support in organizing this Special Section. Finally, we would like to thank the Editorial Committee members, without whom this Special Section would not have been realized. To commemorate their contributions, their names and affiliations are listed below:

#### Guest Editors:

Kazuaki Kondo (Kyoto University, Japan), Kazunori Terada (Gifu University, Japan), Keiji Yanai (The University of Electro-Communications, Japan)

#### Guest Associate Editors:

Keisuke Doman (Chukyo University, Japan), Takuya Funatomi (Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Japan), Atsushi Hashimoto (OMRON SINIC X Corporation, Japan), Katsufumi Inoue (Osaka Prefecture University, Japan), Tomoo Inoue (University of Tsukuba, Japan), Kenzaburo Miyawaki (Osaka Institute of Technology, Japan), Hidetsugu Nanba (Chuo University, Japan), Takuji Narumi (The University of Tokyo, Japan), Satoshi Nishiguchi (Osaka Institute of Technology, Japan), Kazushi Nishimoto (Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Japan), Tomohide Shibata (Kyoto University, Japan), Kyoko Sudo (Toho University, Japan), Kimitoshi Yamazaki (Shinshu University, Japan)

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Ichiro Ide (Nagoya University, Japan) and Yoko Yamakata (The University of Tokyo, Japan), Guest Editors-in-Chief

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**Ichiro Ide** (*Member*) received his BEng, MEng, and PhD from The University of Tokyo in 1994, 1996, and 2000, respectively. He became an Assistant Professor at the National Institute of Informatics, Japan in 2000. Since 2004, he has been an Associate Professor at Nagoya University. His research interest ranges from the analysis and indexing to retargeting of multimedia contents, especially in large-scale broadcast video archives, mostly on news, cooking, and sports contents.



**Yoko Yamakata** (*Member*) received her BEng, MInf and PhD from Kyoto University in 2000, 2002, and 2007, respectively. She was an Expert Researcher at National Institute of Communications and Technology, Japan from 2006, a Lecturer and later an Associate Professor at Kyoto University from 2010, a JSPS Research Fellow at The University of Tokyo from 2015, and currently an Associate Professor at The University of Tokyo. Her research interests include multimedia processing, especially regarding cooking and eating activities.

