Welcome to IEEE Letters of the Computer Society

Gregory T. Byrd, Senior Member, IEEE

Welcome to the first issue of the *IEEE Letters of the Computer Society (LOCS)*, a new journal devoted to publication of high-impact short papers in all areas within the Computer Society’s field of interest. This scope is intentionally broad; it includes all topics covered by transactions and magazines published by the Society. As with our other publications, emph LOCS papers are rigorously peer-reviewed and must represent novel original research. The difference with LOCS is the emphasis on short papers and a fast review cycle.

Letters-style journals are not new to IEEE or to the Computer Society. Since the launch of *IEEE Computer Architecture Letters (CAL)* in 2002, more than four hundred papers have been published, and CAL continues to be a premier venue for short, impactful papers in the area of computer architecture. With the creation of LOCS, we aim to bring that opportunity for brief papers with rapid turnaround to all areas of computer science and engineering. Such areas include, but are not limited to: software engineering, machine intelligence, computer systems and hardware, autonomous systems, parallel computing, quantum computing, databases, services computing, embedded software and hardware, operating systems, programming languages, internet-of-things, cybersecurity, computer graphics and visualization, and much more. (If your research area is not listed here, don’t worry—we’re interested!)

We specifically decided to create a broadly-scoped Letters, rather than multiple discipline-specific journals, for several reasons. First, a broad scope makes it easier for authors, who do not need to identify which journal is the best match for their articles. Second, the breadth of topics makes the journal appeal to a wider audience, and may expose readers to research that they would not normally encounter. We are particularly interested in attracting readers and authors from industry, who may not have as much time to create or consume long-form research papers, but who do have the need to stay connected to cutting-edge research in a variety of disciplines. Finally, by gathering all of our interest areas under one roof, so to speak, we can more easily become the preferred venue for new and emerging research in computer science and engineering, and we can adapt the content to reflect changes in the technology landscape.

We aspire to attract two types of papers to LOCS. First are papers with high-impact ideas that are best expressed in a brief format. These contributions can be theoretical or experimental in nature, but they represent new concepts, implementations, standards, or techniques that deserve rapid dissemination in a peer-reviewed medium. Second, we want to represent the first step in the life cycle of significant published research: an article in LOCS provides an initial peer-reviewed record of novel work that will be expanded and developed into multiple top-tier conference and journal papers. The author gets early feedback from peer reviewers, as well as wide exposure of the idea throughout the community.

Finally, it is my pleasure to introduce the inaugural editor-in-chief of the *IEEE Letters of the Computer Society*. Darrell Long is a Distinguished Professor of Computer Engineering at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he holds the Kumar Malavalli Endowed Chair in Storage Systems Research. He is a fellow of IEEE and AAAS. Dr. Long is the former EiC of *ACM Transactions on Storage* and was the founder of the Conference on File and Storage Technologies (FAST). He has a broad range of research interests in computer science, including data storage systems, operating systems, distributed computing, reliability and fault tolerance, and computer security. Dr. Long is an excellent choice to get LOCS started on a solid footing and an accelerated trajectory.

The Computer Society is proud to support this addition to the IEEE publication portfolio, and we welcome your participation, as a reader or contributor. For more than seventy years, the Computer Society has been a leading resource of information for researchers and practitioners, and we are pleased to continue that tradition with each and every issue of *Letters of the Computer Society*.

Greg Byrd
2018 VP for Publications
IEEE Computer Society

For information on obtaining reprints of this article, please send e-mail to:
reprints@ieee.org and reference the Digital Object Identifier below.
Digital Object Identifier no. 10.1109/LCOS.2018.2863395
Darrell D. E. Long received his BS degree in Computer Science from San Diego State University, and his MS and PhD from the University of California, San Diego. His dissertation advisor was Jehan-François Paris. While in graduate school and before joining the University of California, Santa Cruz, he was a lecturer in Mathematics at San Diego State University and taught at the University of California, San Diego. He is Distinguished Professor of Computer Engineering at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He holds the Kumar Malavalli Endowed Chair of Storage Systems Research and is Director of the Storage Systems Research Center. He has authored highly cited research papers on web caching, distributed file systems, power-aware hard disk management in mobile computing, and low-bandwidth multicast techniques for video on demand, among other topics. In 2006 he was elevated to Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) “for contributions to storage systems architecture and performance”. In 2008 he was inducted a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He is a member of the IEEE Computer Society, the Association for Computing Machinery, the American Society for Engineering Education, the Usenix Association, Upsilon Pi Epsilon and Sigma Xi.