Twenty Years in the Making

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It’s my guess that anything with “computing” in its name is difficult to do for 20 years, or at least do well. IEEE Internet Computing has not only continued to innovate for 20 years, but in the last year reports have shown that IC has the highest impact factor of all IEEE Computer Society magazines. That’s “staying power.”

As I reflect on the past 20 years of IEEE Internet Computing, it’s clear that the magazine has used its active voice to continue maneuvering within risky research areas while maintaining a high impact. Now, 20 years later, IC is innovating in areas such as the Internet of Things, health informatics and privacy, social media, and 5G — each of these are special issues this year. IC continues to blur the boundaries between academic, industry, government, and personal computing, to the delight of our readership.

As Editor-in-Chief, during my term I hope to continue publishing articles that span computing technologies associated with the Internet and Web applications. IC will continue helping our readership interpret and maneuver this highly-evolving landscape. Today and tomorrow, IC will continue being intentionally broad and forward-looking, captivating our readers with research papers, technical advancements, expert commentary, state-of-the-art surveys and visionary works, and reviews. We look forward to even more contributions in the areas of architecture, cloud computing, Internet and network security, social media, Web-based services, and applications.

To celebrate our 20th anniversary, this issue contains several special additions. First, the founding EIC of IC, Charles Petrie, has penned an opinion piece to reminisce about the magazine’s beginnings and to celebrate its tenure.

Second, I’m delighted that my Drexel University colleague and an author of perhaps the first research article in the first issue of the magazine, William Regli, also contributed an article to discuss his views of the magazine since his work was published.

Third, in honor of IC’s 20th anniversary, we created a special recognition called the “Test of Time.” I heartily congratulate Greg Linden, Brent Smith, and Jeremy York for their January/February 2003 industry article titled “Amazon.com Recommendations: Item-to-Item Collaborative Filtering,” which we’re recognizing in this issue as our inaugural Test of Time article (see doi:10.1109/MIC.2003.1167344). In this issue, Greg Linden and Brent Smith have contributed a retrospective look at their published work in 2003, following up with insights since that time. I asked my PhD student (Julian Jarrett) from Drexel University to write a sidebar discussing the impact of this work and its relationship to his current research.

Finally, in addition to the content for the 20th anniversary, this issue contains the enhanced best papers from the Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS). Considering the need for personal security in this area of social media and increased dependence of Internet commerce and mobile commerce, I sincerely thank the guest editors, Mary Ellen Zurko and Rick Walsh, for all of their efforts.

I hope that you enjoy this very special issue in the history of the magazine. Happy anniversary, Internet Computing … here’s to many more.

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