This is the first time the ASONAM conference has been organized in North America. I am so delighted to watch the conference moving up so fast with consistent and hopefully sustainable success. Achieving acceptance rate of 13% this year is a new record which brings a challenge for the new organizers. I am sure they are aware of the mission and will be able to maintain the same quality for the coming years. We need to show the success as permanent for ASONAM to continue its mission as the leading venue in the area of social networks analysis and mining. The number of quality submissions is rapidly increasing every year demonstrating the visibility of the conference and making it harder to select the papers to accommodate in the program. The quality of workshops co-located with ASONAM has been considerably improved this year. In addition, I am happy to witness the success of the two symposiums which have been integrated into the organization to have more specialized coverage of two key areas related to network based modeling and analysis. The symposium on the Foundations of Open Source Intelligence and Security Informatics (FOSINT-SI) is serving mostly researchers and practitioners interested in terror and criminal data analysis. On the other hand, the symposium on Network Enabled Health Informatics, Biomedicine and Bioinformatics (HI-BI-BI) covers the network applications in the health domain from the wet-lab to the clinic.

Having six workshops and two symposiums under the umbrella of ASONAM is providing unique opportunity to participants who are granted access to all sessions, tutorials and the panel. The four tutorials will provide unique learning opportunity and the panel will allow participants to hear from leading researchers their visions and the expected trends in research related to social network analysis in the era of big data.

I would like to express our appreciation of the sponsorship from both the IEEE Technical Committee on Data Engineering and ACM SIGKDD, which are the leading communities in the data management and analysis arena. All these notable achievements could not be possible without the hard work of a number of persons who dedicated their time and effort to contribute to the success of the main conference and the co-located workshops and symposiums. The organizing committee of ASONAM 2013 and the co-located two symposiums and the six workshops worked hard to attract the high quality submissions received this year. Not to forget the generous support received every year from Springer-Verlag, Global University, University of Calgary and Hellenic American University. Finally, special thanks to the administration of the Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls, Ontario who offered us a generous package for hosting ASONAM 2013.

Special thanks to Min-Yuh Day who dedicated his time and effort to produce the proceedings. Thank you to all participants, to authors who submitted papers and to PC members and the reviewers who invested their valuable time and effort to provide timely and comprehensive reviews. Hard luck to authors who could not get their papers accepted this year. Hope they will attend ASONAM 2013 to get the unique opportunity to meet and discuss with other attending researchers; I hope they will get the opportunity to present their work at ASONAM in the coming years. Next year ASONAM 2014 will be held in Beijing, China in August 2014. We expect a larger gathering and more success.

Reda Alhajj,
Steering Chair
ASONAM 2013