Welcome to Santiago de Chile and to the 15th IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV). The conference’s main program includes 525 peer-reviewed papers (30.3% of 1698 valid submissions), which were allocated a poster presentation as well as a video spotlight that will play during each poster session. All spotlights were edited into videos for each session, which were uploaded to YouTube. Of these papers, 56 (3.3% of valid submissions) were selected for oral presentation. The conference’s main program also includes a plenary lecture by Prof. Stephen Boyd accompanied by an invited paper, a doctoral consortium, 13 demos, 10 exhibitors, and various social functions. In addition to the main program, ICCV 2015 has a number of co-located events, including 10 tutorials and 27 workshops. ICCV 2015 also enjoyed a record amount of industrial sponsorship which supported best paper awards, the doctoral consortium, and travel support for early career researchers.

The paper selection process was designed by the Program Chairs (PCs), who recruited 115 computer vision researchers to serve as Area Chairs (ACs). ACs were selected to provide a broad range of expertise, to balance junior and senior members, and to represent a variety of geographical locations. In general, PCs selected ACs who had served no more than 3 times in the 3 major computer vision conferences in the last 5 years, and selected no more than one AC per institution. A few exceptions were made when ACs for specific areas were needed. The PCs also recruited 1233 experienced reviewers from the broader computer vision community. Our criteria to select reviewers were a proven publication record in the top computer vision conferences and journals and a completed (or close to completed) doctoral degree. The original list of reviewers was extended by a few additional reviewers recommended by the ACs to add expertise for papers where appropriate reviewers were not available.

As in previous years, paper submission, matching, review, and decision were handled using Microsoft’s Conference Management Toolkit (CMT) system, and paper-to-reviewer matching scores were computed using the Toronto Paper Matching System (TPMS). However, the following key innovations to the review process were introduced. (1) With the help of Andrew McCallum’s team and the support of the Computer Vision Foundation (CVF), we introduced Researcher.cc, a new conflict management system that automatically mines institutional, co-author, and advisor-advisee conflicts, while at the same time allowing for user input. (2) We asked reviewers to bid for the papers they wanted to review, and used these bids in conjunction with TPMS scores to suggest reviewers to ACs. As a result, the assignment of papers to reviewers was based not only on AC suggestions, but also on reviewers’ bids. (3) Instead of assigning each paper to one primary AC, who then discussed the paper with one or more secondary ACs, we assigned each paper to two primary ACs who independently assessed the reviews and recommended acceptance or rejection (as done in ICCV 2011). In case of disagreement, anonymous discussions between the two ACs were conducted to reach a consensus. If a consensus was not reached, a third AC independently assessed the reviews and broke the tie. A third AC was also assigned to papers where the ACs’ decision was different from a unanimous reviewers’ decision. In this way, all decisions were made by ACs using CMT, without the need for a physical AC meeting. The ACs also recommended 16 papers.
for awards, which were sent to the Marr Prize Committee, which selected the winners in a conflict free manner and independently from the PCs and GCs. (4) We used paper-to-paper matching scores to detect similar submissions and assign them to the same ACs and reviewers. The same scores were also used to detect potential double submissions. (5) Prior to the rebuttal phase, papers for which reviewers and ACs unanimously recommended rejection were early rejected, allowing authors to re-submit the work to other venues well before the final decisions were announced. (6) During the rebuttal phase, authors were allowed to submit a revised PDF that addressed the reviewer’s comments.

To make the decision process as comprehensible as possible, the PCs checked all consolidation reports for quality and requested additional explanations from the ACs in a few cases. The PCs also invested significant effort in detecting and discussing possible cases of plagiarism, self-plagiarism and double submissions, involving the ACs and reviewers when needed. As a result, a number of papers were desk-rejected, and the most severe cases were reported to the IEEE.

The PCs did not submit any papers, allowing them to work without any direct conflicts throughout the review process. This year, General Chairs (GCs) were allowed to submit papers, and therefore did not have any software access to the CMT system beyond that of an author. Additionally, ACs were excluded from any decisions associated with papers from their research groups, affiliated institutions, or collaborators. The double-blind nature of the ICCV review process was thus strictly maintained throughout.

The proceedings of ICCV 2015, which include all papers in the main conference and associated workshops, have been published in the CVF website and are being provided on USB drives at the conference. The papers will also be indexed by the IEEE and made available through the IEEE Computer Society Digital Library and IEEE Xplore.

We wish to thank all members of the Organizing Committee, ACs, reviewers, and authors. A special thanks to Nicole Finn and her team for managing the conference organization; ICCV 2015 would not have happened without them. We also wish to thank Laurent Charlin, Ari Kobren, Colin Lea and the CMT team for providing critical technical assistance with TPMS, Researcher.cc, CMT, and various other software used to run the conference. Their immense amount of hard work and professionalism has made ICCV 2015 a first-rate conference. Our thanks also go to the organizers of previous conferences for their helpful advice and support. Finally, we are extremely grateful to all of the sponsors of ICCV 2015.

In closing, we wish all the attendees a highly stimulating and informative conference, and an enjoyable stay in Santiago de Chile.

General Chairs: **Ruzena Bajcsy, Greg Hager, Yi Ma**
Program Chairs: **Katsushi Ikeuchi, Christoph Schnörr, Josef Sivic, René Vidal**