Welcome Message from the ICDAR 2017
General and Executive Chairs

Welcome to the 2017 IAPR International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition in Kyoto, Japan. It is truly an honor to host our premier conference in an ancient capital of Japan, which is now recognized as one of the most important and attractive cities in Japan because of its cultural properties. You are now in Kyoto at the best season with full of autumn red leaves. We hope you will enjoy the mixture of modern and historical sites and tastes, as well as natural scenes in Kyoto.

ICDAR 2017 is the fourteenth biennial meeting of our international research community which began in St. Malo, France in 1991. Since that time, we have met in Tsukuba, Japan (‘93), Montreal, Canada (‘95), Ulm, Germany (‘97), Bangalore, India (‘99), Seattle, Washington (‘01), Edinburgh, UK (‘03), Seoul, Korea (‘05), Curitiba, Brazil (‘07), Barcelona, Spain (‘09), Beijing, China (‘11), Washington DC, USA (‘13), and most recently in Nancy, France (‘15). ICDAR 2017 continues a long tradition of providing state-of-the-art snapshots of the research advances in our field and we hope that you will benefit from all that the conference has to offer.

This conference will be highlighted by three keynote talks. The first keynote will be by IAPR/ICDAR Outstanding Achievements Award winner Rangachar Kasturi, a professor at the University of South Florida, who will focus his talk on the history and recent advances of graphics recognition. In the second keynote, Andreas Dengel, a professor from German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), will enable us to consider the past, the current and the future of our ICDAR community, by his talk on mining our community publications. Finally, Xiang Bai, a professor at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, will provide his insights on deep neural networks applied to scene text analysis.

Through the technical program, you will have 52 oral presentations and 160 poster presentations over three days. The conference will host traditional and new workshops and tutorials on various topics aimed at the focused study of cutting-edge problems in our field, and researchers will have the opportunity to learn new algorithms as well as results of numerous competitions that are driving interest in the community. This year’s special attempt is to start an open workshop on the future of document analysis and recognition. In contrast to other workshops, which report what researchers have done, this workshop is only to discuss the future of our research field. We plan to have a short summary presentation at the banquet and a more detailed presentation and discussion at the panel on the last day of the conference. We hope that this conference will provide a forum for generating new insights within the field of document analysis.

A large conference like ICDAR depends almost exclusively on the team of volunteers who work tirelessly on the program, infrastructure, and facilities. We would first like to thank the program co-chairs, Daniel Lopresti, C.V. Jawahar, Dimosthenis Karatzas who have worked to put together a first-class technical program. We would also like to thank the chairs of the workshops, tutorials, competitions, doctoral consortium, and publicity for their help and support. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of our sponsors which helps to reduce costs and provide various awards including student travel awards. We would like to thank our team of
organizers, in particular, Andreas Dengel and Hisashi Ikeda for their work as sponsorship chairs, Wataru Ohyama and Kengo Terasawa as publication chairs, Motoi Iwata and Olivier Augereau for local arrangement chairs, Tomo Miyazaki as the web master, and Aya Onishi and Yasuka Watanabe for their secretariat responsibilities. Finally, we would like to express our deep appreciation for valuable guidance from our honorary chairs, Prof. Kazuhiko Yamamoto and Prof. Masaki Nakagawa.

We hope that you enjoy the conference, the city and foods, as well as stimulating communication with your colleagues.

Koichi Kise, Shinichiro Omachi, Seiichi Uchida, and Masakazu Iwamura
*General and Executive Chairs, ICDAR 2017*