EIC MESSAGE

IT HAS been just little more than a year from the launching date of the IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing (TETC) and I am honored to report to you on the many success stories that have occurred over this time period. TETC has published 4 issues (exclusive of the current one) in 2013 and 2014, as evidenced by Special Issues and Sections on a diverse range of topics such as Cyber-Physical Systems; Emerging Nanoscale Architectures for Hardware Security, Trust, and Reliability; Computational Sustainability. A total of 50 manuscripts have been published (31 in 2013 and 19 in 2014); all these manuscripts are now available in Open Access (OA) format at the IEEE Xplore Digital Library.

During this period, TETC has kept a very competitive selectivity (at an acceptance rate of just above 20%) and a healthy Early Access queue has been established for publication of manuscripts in future issues. This resounding success has placed TETC at the very top among OA publications of the IEEE, while propelling it at the forefront of the computing field and embracing multi-facet technologies across science and engineering. I invite our readers and potential contributors to visit the web page of TETC http://www.computer.org/portal/web/tetc to familiarize with the Special Issues that have been approved and are already planned for future issues; potential Guest Editors are always welcome and should contact me for more detailed information on the due process for submitting a proposal for a Special Issue. The number of pages allocated yearly to TETC is increasing, so opportunities for additional Special Issues are still available. As Editor-in-Chief, I continue to seek the best articles with diversity of topics and geographic affiliations to enlarge the technical scope of TETC.

Over the last year, a recurrent question that I have been asked by potential authors, is in the indexing of TETC by organizations, such as Web of Science and Thomson Reuters. Most of these organizations review new publications in that periodical’s third year. As TETC will be in its third year in 2015, it will undergo review at that time. Moreover, consistent with all IEEE periodicals, I am confident that TETC will successfully pass this review; if accepted for indexing, then all articles of TETC back to volume 1, issue 1, will be included in the index. So, this is a normal process to be undertaken by any new periodical, and as I said previously, TETC will likely be indexed as attested by all other periodicals of the IEEE and the Computer Society.

I have learned firsthand that there are many challenges with a new Transactions; TETC is still growing and these new challenges are mostly related to the proper and careful management of the periodical. The increasing number of submissions has also created new opportunities; TETC is also expanding its operations to other activities beyond the initial publication mode of Special Issues and Sections (SIS) only. Having now in place a very extensive publication schedule for future Issues, regular manuscripts in specific emerging topics (referred to as “tracks”) can be accommodated.

TETC is therefore starting the publication of articles in technical tracks for specific emerging areas as well as targeting activities in different parts of the world. In this respect, the following colleagues (who in the past have contributed to very successful Special Sections of TETC) are the first two appointed Associate Editors:

- Prof Nei Kato (Tohoku University, Japan) will solicit, assess, and coordinate technical publication activities for TETC in Far East Asia, so focusing on emerging trends of interests to TETC in countries, such as China, Korea, and Japan.
- Prof. Song Guo (University of Aizu, Japan) will be the AE for regular submissions in computational networks, thus covering emerging topics in sensor systems, networking, and related areas.

I envision additional AE appointments in the next months to enlarge the number of tracks and the representation of different geographic areas, thus further spanning the publication activities of TETC on a worldwide basis. The review of regular manuscripts (so beyond the deadlines to be met in a Special issue) for a track will occur once authors select the appropriate AE through Manuscript Central. So, I encourage prospective contributors (both authors and potential guest editors) to take advantages of these new opportunities by contacting the above AEs.

I would like to remind our contributors that TETC is only OA, thus enabling a wider and unrestricted distribution of your work. I have received many email messages from prospective authors requesting publication of their manuscripts just by paying the OA fee; the OA fee is applicable only once a manuscript has undergone a full peer-review; TETC remains fully committed to ensure that only manuscripts of the highest quality and impact are published. Together with a very extensive support for ensuring originality of each manuscript (through similarity and plagiarism checking software), TETC continues to have a very tight, yet professional review process with a very low acceptance rate, that is in line with the best periodicals, hence requests based on only payment of the OA fee cannot be met.

In conclusion, I am very excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for IEEE TETC. A positive slope is evident by all accounts and I warmly extend an invitation to participate either as an author, or a proposer of a Special Issue. Do not hesitate to contact me as you will find me very receptive to innovative themes and helpful in ensuring that your proposal will be evaluated fairly and speedily. Finally, I look forward
to meet you in person at different professional events that we may both attend, also on these occasions I am open to comments and suggestions from the readership. After all, a Transactions is as good as its constituencies.

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NEI KATO (M’04–F’13) received the bachelor’s degree from Tokyo Polytechnic University, Tokyo, Japan, in 1986, and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in information engineering from Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan, in 1988 and 1991, respectively. He joined the Computer Center at Tohoku University as an Assistant Professor in 1991, where he was promoted to Full Professor position with the Graduate School of Information Sciences in 2003. He became a Strategic Adviser to the President of Tohoku University in 2013. He has been involved in research on computer networking, wireless mobile communications, satellite communications, ad hoc and sensor and mesh networks, smart grid, and pattern recognition. He has authored over 300 papers in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings. He currently serves as a Member-at-Large on the Board of Governors of the IEEE Communications Society, the Chair of the IEEE Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks Technical Committee and the IEEE ComSoc Sendai Chapter, the Associate Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Network and the IEEE Internet of Things Journal, and an Area Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology. He served as the Chair of the IEEE ComSoc Satellite and Space Communications Technical Committee (2010–2012), the Chair of the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE) Satellite Communications Technical Committee (2011–2012), a Guest Editor of many IEEE transactions/journals/magazines, the Symposium Co-Chair of GLOBECOM’07, ICC’10, ICC’11, ICC’12, the Vice Chair of IEEE WCNC’10, WCNC’11, ChinaCom’08, and ChinaCom’09, the Symposium Co-Chair of GLOBECOM’12, the TPC Vice Chair of ICC’14, and the Workshop Co-Chair of VTC2010. He was a recipient of the Minoru Ishida Foundation Research Encouragement Prize (2003), the Distinguished Contributions to Satellite Communications Award from the IEEE ComSoc, Satellite and Space Communications Technical Committee (2005), the FUNAI Information Science Award (2007), the TELCOM System Technology Award from the Foundation for Electrical Communications Diffusion (2008), the IEICE Network System Research Award (2009), the IEICE Satellite Communications Research Award (2011), the KDDI Foundation Excellent Research Award (2012), the IEICE Communications Society’s Distinguished Service Award (2012), the Distinguished Contributions to Disaster-Resilient Networks Research and Development Award from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan (2014), six best paper awards from the IEEE GLOBECOM/WCNC/VTC, and the IEICE Communications Society Best Paper Award (2012). In addition to his academic activities, he also serves on the Expert Committee of Telecommunications Council, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, and as the Chairperson of ITU-R SG4 and SG7, Japan. He is a Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE Communications Society and the Vehicular Technology Society. He is a fellow of IEICE.

SONG GUO (M’02–SM’11) received the Ph.D. degree in computer science from the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada. He is currently a Full Professor with the School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Aizu, Aizuwakamatsu, Japan. His research interests are mainly in the areas of protocol design and performance analysis for computer and telecommunication networks. He received the best paper awards at ACM IMCOM 2014, IEEE CSE 2011, and IEEE HPCC 2008. He currently serves as an Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems. He is on the Editorial Boards of ACM/Springer Wireless Networks, Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing, and many others. He has also been on Organizing and Technical Committees of numerous international conferences, including served as the General Co-Chair of the 2013 MobiQuitous. He is a Senior Member of the Association for Computing Machinery.