

Message From the Editor-in-Chief

ON December 31, 2015, yet another year of resounding success has been recorded for the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON EMERGING TOPICS IN COMPUTING (TETC). As you will read further in this editorial, TETC has experienced many new initiatives and I am pleased to report that TETC continues to strengthen its reputation and consolidate its unique role within the publication portfolio of the Computer Society (CS). ScholarOne reports the following very impressive statistics for the 2015 calendar year:

Number of submitted original papers: 422

Number of revised-and-resubmitted papers: 114

Total number of papers received: 536

For the same period, the acceptance rate stood at 20.1%, making TETC one of the most selective peer-reviewed periodicals of the entire IEEE. The above numbers reflect the steady and continued growth in terms of quality and quantity of this periodical; for example in the calendar year 2014, a total of 325 papers were received; hence, TETC experienced an increase of 65% in the number of submissions during 2015.

My most sincere thanks goes to all constituencies of TETC for such an accomplishment: the readers, supporters, contributors, reviewers and the Editorial Board. I am also particularly grateful to the Guest Editors for all the work (both done and on-going) to ensure the timely publication of the articles with professionalism and fairness in the peer-review process. Certainly, a special acknowledgment for her day-by-day support in all operations is owed to the TETC Periodical Assistant, Ms. Allyson Titta.

As closely aligned with the technical scope and activities of the IEEE CS, TETC continues to focus on special issues and sections with emphasis on computing and computational related aspects.

As EIC I am very happy to report that the transition to a hybrid publication has been successfully implemented in 2015; moreover as applicable to any new publication, the challenges in establishing an excellent reputation, a rapid but steady growth rate in submitted works and a sustainable pipeline of accepted manuscripts have been successfully met in less than 3 years, this is truly remarkable by any account.

Needless to say that as EIC, I am committed to a growth that as primary and only measure, places unabated quality in all endeavors. While I am committed to ensure that TETC will meet the highest standards of selectivity in the reviewing process, I regard the impact of the published articles as the ultimate measure of excellence. So, I look forward to receive more manuscripts of the highest quality and of computing relevance from authors in 2016.

We are leveraging the past and the outstanding results of 2015 well into 2016 and beyond. As found on the web site of TETC (<http://www.computer.org/web/tetc>) many new special sections/issues will be executed in 2016; they are all in an open paper call format, so there is ample of opportunities for publishing your best work in a focused venue. Scheduling for 2017 is starting to look rather full with innovative coverage in a diverse field of emerging topics. I am excited by the tremendous response from the TETC community; nevertheless, if you wish to organize a special issue/section on a topic of relevance to TETC, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In parallel with the growth in special issues/sections, TETC has also expanded its coverage through Technical Tracks. The following Technical Tracks are available to our contributors for submitting their works:

- Enterprise Computing Systems
- Computational Networks
- Hardware and Embedded System Security
- Educational Computing
- High Performance Computing
- Next Generation Wireless Computing Systems
- Computer System Security
- Emerging Hardware for Computing

Technical Tracks offer a unique publication venue (often faster than special issues) by which emerging topics in a specific area can be reviewed by expert referees. I encourage potential authors to consider them also.

Finally, I would like to clarify few items of an operational and important nature that authors should be familiar.

- As per my previous message, IEEE TETC is a peer-reviewed periodical sponsored by the IEEE CS. Therefore, TETC must comply with the scope and technical objective of its sponsor Society; TETC is not expected to expand publication activities in areas already well and clearly covered by other IEEE societies/journals, i.e., a submission (so applicable to special issues/sections as well as Technical Tracks) must clearly have a technical content that is focused on computing. This policy is based on ethics and a collegiate behavior that the IEEE expects from all editors and volunteers.
- The contact authors as part of a paper submission process, must specify in the cover letter the name of the special issue or Technical Track to which the submission is made. If this information is not provided, regrettably the submission will be voided using an administrative reject decision.

- I remind our prospective authors that a previously rejected paper to TETC cannot be resubmitted; only papers declined under the “revise and resubmit” category can be resubmitted to TETC for further consideration under an additional round of review (multiple rounds under “revise-and-resubmit” decisions are discouraged).
- Submitted articles must not have been previously published or currently submitted for journal publication elsewhere. An extended version of the article appearing in any conference proceedings can be submitted, provided that it has substantially new content with respect to the original conference version. The conference paper must be cited in the main text and the cover letter (or additional documentation) must clearly describe the differences with the conference version and

clearly identify the new contributions. As an author, you are responsible for understanding and adhering to the submission guidelines of TETC.

As you can extrapolate from my message, the prospects for 2016 look excellent; there are many signs that the momentum from 2015 can be continued at a faster pace. Do not hesitate to contact me at lombardi@ece.neu.edu or chat if we meet at a professional meeting; I will be delighted to answer questions and provide further clarification and information on any aspect related to TETC.

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