

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

2016 has been yet another remarkable year in the annals of the *IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing (TETC)*. As expected the Computer Society (CS) and the IEEE have been working closely with Thomson Reuters to ensure they have the information to properly evaluate *TETC* for indexing. I am pleased to inform you that *TETC* has successfully passed the evaluation and it will be soon indexed by Thomson Reuters; indexing will be retroactive, so all articles (since inception) will be included. Also as per IEEE regulation, *TETC* has also undergone the first detailed evaluation by the IEEE PRAC (Periodical Review Advisory Committee) in Fall 2016; also in this case, I am happy to report that *TETC* has successfully passed this important milestone.

Scholar 1 reports the following very impressive statistics for the 2016 calendar year (the data for 2015 is reported between parentheses).

Number of submitted original papers:	442 (422)
Number of revised-and-resubmitted papers:	128 (114)
Total number of papers received:	570 (536)

Recall that as 2015 was a record year for *TETC*, 2016 has outperformed it with increases across all manuscript types and metrics. Over the 2016 calendar year, the manuscript acceptance rate remained at 21.5 percent, so *TETC* continues to be one of the *most selective* peer-reviewed periodicals of the entire IEEE portfolio.

These outstanding achievements reflect the dedication of all constituencies of *TETC*. The Guest Editors continue to perform to the highest levels 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. Alexandra Titta.

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 2017 and reporting in 2017 the impact factor.

We are leveraging the outstanding results of both 2015 and 2016 to further improve *TETC* and make it the publication of your choice for computing-focused manuscripts. As found on the web site of *TETC* (<http://www.computer.org/web/tetc>) many new Special Sections/Issues will be executed in 2017; they are all in an open paper call format, so together with many Technical Tracks, there is ample of opportunities for publishing in *TETC*. Moreover if you wish to organize a

Special Issue/Section on a topic of relevance to *TETC*, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Finally, I would like to clarify one more time few items of operational 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* will not expand its 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 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*.
- Over the last year, I have received many emails from potential authors asking for an assessment of the suitability of their manuscript based on the title and abstract only prior to a formal submission. Such request is not contemplated in my role as EIC and is contrary to IEEE regulations, because a manuscript cannot be evaluated based on such limited information. Hence, be advised that such requests will not be met.

2017 looks yet again as an exciting year; as available on the *TETC* website, scheduling of future special issues and sections looks impressive in both quantitative and qualitative terms. Overall, the operations of *TETC* continue on a positive slope and all data and signs point to growth and an impressive level of outstanding technical quality in published works.

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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