

A Message from the New Editor-In-Chief

Leila De Floriani



IT is a great honor for me to serve as the Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of the *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG)*. I am grateful to the TVCG EIC Search Committee and to the IEEE Computer Society's Publication Board for their confidence in me and for providing me with the opportunity to both serve our community in this role and to have the chance to influence the future of one of the most outstanding publications in visualization, computer graphics, visual analytics, and virtual reality. The high quality and the success of TVCG over the 20 years of its life is the result of the dedication and excellent work of the former EICs, Arie Kaufmann, Hans Hagen, David Ebert, Thomas Ertl, and Ming Lin, with the invaluable help of the members of the TVCG Editorial Board and the continuous support from the IEEE Computer Society's staff. It will be a big challenge for me to meet and to strive to improve upon the high standards that they have established.

At this point, I want to express my deep gratitude, also on behalf of the members of the Editorial Board and of the IEEE Computer Society's supporting staff, to the outgoing Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Ming Lin, for her tremendous effort and dedication which have led TVCG to its current prestige. Under her leadership, the scope and reach of TVCG have expanded greatly through the growing path of the integration of journals and conferences. This has been accomplished through the publication of the proceedings of the IEEE Virtual Reality Conference, since 2012, and of the IEEE Visual Analytics Science and Technology (VAST) Conference, starting in 2013. Moreover, in this model of journal and conference integration, Ming has introduced the new opportunity for authors of TVCG regular papers to give an oral presentation of their results at appropriate TVCG partner conferences in visualization, graphics, and virtual reality. I am convinced that such an arrangement provides a unique chance for the conference attendees to be exposed to the high-quality papers published in TVCG, and also encourages TVCG authors to attend these conferences. Her tight monitoring of the entire review and production processes resulted in further decreasing the time between submission and first decision, and between submission and publication in the digital library. These are great achievements, as the quality of TVCG has not been compromised by this increased workload on our reviewers, whom we all greatly appreciate. I will try my best to maintain this path and for this I will rely on her advice and support as well as on that of the former EICs, Arie Kaufmann, Hans Hagen, David Ebert, and Thomas Ertl.

My efforts will be in monitoring, maintaining and continuing to improve the efficiency of the TVCG manuscript review and electronic publication processes, the quality of the submissions, and the submission rate for regular papers. I will continue the path of collaboration with the conferences for which TVCG publishes the proceedings as special issues, in scientific and information visualization, visual analytics, and in virtual and augmented reality. The year 2015 will see the publication of the proceedings of the International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality (ISMAR) for the first time.

My plan is also to possibly enlarge the number of conferences that enable authors of accepted TVCG papers to present their work. This will require a close cooperation with their organizers, and I believe will serve as an incentive for authors to choose the option of having TVCG be the venue for publishing the results of their research. I will work hard at pursuing the continuing search for new and interesting topics for special sections from specialized workshops and symposia, thereby further increasing the presence and visibility of TVCG in new and emerging application areas as well as in foundational areas. This will require the aid of the Associate Editors (AEs) in order to lead the efforts in their respective communities.

It is my intent to encourage the submission of high-quality papers that review the state of the art and contribute to establish the foundations of our discipline by providing extensive and in-depth overviews of a subfield or of a specific topic. In this era of increasing almost universal access to multimedia data via smartphone and mobile devices, I will further pursue the effort to publish multimedia content of TVCG papers on the journal website, which will serve to showcase the papers as well as to give a quick and complementary access to their content.

Since the basis for any future improvement in the usefulness and reputation of TVCG lies in increasing the number of high-quality submissions, I encourage the visualization and computer graphics communities to submit their best and latest research results to TVCG. I would also like both authors and readers to feel welcome in sharing with me any ideas for how to further improve the services and benefits that TVCG offers in order to serve their needs and those of the entire community.

Leila De Floriani, *Editor-in-Chief*