

# Editorial

**T**HIS LAST issue of 2013 sees a significant change in the production process for our journal: We finally moved to a total of 900 pages to print accepted papers as fast as possible. This 50% increase with respect to the last few years will allow for reducing the printing backlog and for giving the appropriate space to the various special issues organized by guest editors as well as to the numerous papers accepted in regular issues.

This current issue collects papers in the areas of complex system engineering, systems-of-systems engineering, and power systems (from production to distribution). Papers address various topics encompassing theory, technologies, design methodologies, and applications.

Significant changes have been made also in the manuscript management process. The new manuscript management system was deployed in June of 2013 and has been working well. We decided not to move the manuscripts initially submitted in the old management system to the new one to avoid possible problems and delays. I would like to thank Ms. Siu Ying Shaneyfelt, our Editorial Manager, for her outstanding help in the transition between the two manuscript management systems and in processing the manuscripts submitted to the old system.

The website of the journal has been completely redesigned with a contemporary style and more information. I would like

to thank Dr. Ruggero Donida Labati, our webmaster, for his outstanding job in redesigning and managing the new journal website.

In order to accommodate the possible needs of authors for open access to their publications, it is worth noting that this opportunity has been recently made available to authors. The journal has, in fact, become a hybrid journal. All papers are reviewed with the same quality review process. Authors of accepted papers can then opt for publishing either in the reader-pay mode without charges for authors (up to the allowed limit) or in the open-access mode without charges for the reader and a fee paid by authors.

If you have any comment, suggestion, recommendation, or criticism, please do not hesitate to contact me. Everyone can help in continuously improving our journal. We aim to continue to have a live publication for our live community.

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**Vincenzo Piuri** (S'84–M'86–SM'96–F'01) received the Ph.D. degree in computer engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy, in 1989.

He has been an Associate Professor with Politecnico di Milano and a Visiting Professor with the University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA, and with George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA. Since 2000, he has been a Full Professor in computer engineering with the Università degli Studi di Milano, Crema, Italy, where he was the Director of the Department of Information Technology from 2007 to 2012. His original results have been published in more than 350 papers in international journals, proceedings of international conferences, books, and book chapters. His current research interests include theory and industrial applications of neural networks, machine learning, signal and image processing, pattern analysis and recognition, biometrics, intelligent measurement systems, industrial applications, fault tolerance, digital processing architectures, embedded systems, and arithmetic architectures.

Dr. Piuri received the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society Technical Award in 2002 for his contributions to the advancement of theory and practice of computational intelligence in measurement systems and industrial applications, the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society Distinguished Service Award in 2008, and the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Meritorious Service Award in 2009. He is a Distinguished Scientist of the Association for Computing Machinery and a Senior Member of the International Neural Network Society. From 2013 to 2015, he is the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE SYSTEMS JOURNAL. He was an Associate Editor of the IEEE COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE MAGAZINE from 2010 to 2012, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON NEURAL NETWORKS from 2001 to 2004, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT from 1997 to 2002, and various other international journals. From 2013 to 2015, he is a member of the IEEE Publication Services and Products Board. He was an IEEE Director and an IEEE Delegate for Division X from 2010 to 2012, the President of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society from 2006 to 2007, the Vice President for Publications of the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society from 2002 to 2004 and the IEEE Systems Council from 2008 to 2011, the Vice President for Membership of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society from 2003 to 2004, and the Vice President for Education of the IEEE Biometrics Council from 2008 to 2009.