

Guest Editorial

It is our pleasure to present this special issue of *CIT. Journal of Computing and Information Technology*. In this issue (Volume 22, Issue LISS 2013), we selected eight papers which have gone through several rounds of review and revision, and represent a cross-section of research in information technology areas that touch upon both technical and managerial issues. The preliminary versions of these papers were presented at the *Third International Conference on Logistics, Informatics and Service Science (LISS 2013)*, which was jointly hosted by Beijing Jiaotong University, China and the University of Reading, August 23–26, 2013 at Reading, UK.

Ever since the first meeting in Beijing (July 2011), *LISS* conferences have been a big scientific event for researchers and practitioners in the areas of IT, logistics and service science. Increasingly more participants from outside China attended the Conference, thus expanding its impact in the scientific world. Since 2012, the organizers of *LISS* decided to publish selected best full papers presented at the Conference as special issues of respected scientific journals. Publication of extended full papers of presentations given at the Conference provides advantages for both authors and reviewers. On the one hand, the authors had the opportunity to considerably improve the quality of their work through previous deep discussions with peers during the Conference. On the other hand, we could use the precious help of our expert colleagues, who followed the presentations, in assessing the quality of selected papers, hence achieving an even worthier evaluation of these contributions.

After receiving the camera-ready papers for *LISS 2013*, we started to select candidates for submissions to a number of respected scientific journals. To provide an equal opportunity to all authors of invited papers from *LISS 2013*, we announced in the conference circulars the inclusion of a special issue on Cybernetics and Information Technologies. From here on, authors of eighteen *LISS 2013* submissions were invited to revise and extend, according to *CIT*'s publishing standards, to a full paper volume their Conference contributions, eventually shaping a Special Issue of *CIT. Journal of Computing and Information Technology*. Based on a regular reviewing process eight papers were finally accepted, representing an acceptance rate less than 45%.

The topics covered by papers published in this Special Issue include:

- algorithms in IT areas including content-based image retrieval (Chi Zhang and Lei Huang), cluster analysis of e-government public hotspot information (Suozhu Wang, Jianlin Zhang, Fuze Yang and Jia Ye);
- behavioral research in IT including Website attack detection and prediction model (Gregory Epiphaniou, Tim French and Carsten Maple);
- algorithms in transportation information system including soft time windows for routing problems (Yuguang Wei and Luelue Zhou);
- solution study in semiotics including second prototype system which performs semiotic analysis of utterances (Martin Wheatman);
- evaluation model for individual knowledge management maturity (Dan Chang, Xiaoying Han and Baowei Chen);

- storage model design scheme of unified data with business rules for OLTP and OLAP systems (Stephen Opoku-Anokye and Yinshan Tang);
- design framework for emergency MIS for cloud computing (Jinfeng Zhang, Xin Zhao, Xin Liu and Limin Hou).

The eight papers examine information technology in different contexts; various approaches with analytical methods, design science methods and the like have been applied in order to reach the findings presented there. Moreover, they demonstrate the practical relevance of academic research in the IT area.

To sum up, we would like to thank all those who kindly contributed to this Special Issue: authors who submitted their papers, reviewers for their kind help and cooperation, and *CIT*'s Editor-in-Chief, Professor Vlado Glavinić, for his gracious invitation and continued support. We are also indebted for the assistance provided in the preparation and publication of this issue to Vesna Hljuz Dobrić, *CIT*'s Assistant Editor, and to the publishing and production team of University Computing Centre SRCE, University of Zagreb, which hosts *CIT. Journal of Computing and Information Technology*. We hope that you will enjoy reading these papers as much as we enjoyed reviewing, compiling and editing this Special Issue.

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