A Message from the Editorial Team and an Introduction to the January-March 2018 Issue

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With this issue, *IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies* starts its second decade of publication. Over the first 10 years, the journal has gradually established itself as one of the top journals in the field of educational technology. Its popularity has increased year after year—for example, the number of paper downloads in IEEE Xplore has been doubling every two years while the Impact Factor has risen from 0.823 in 2011 to 2.267 in 2016.

The journal is moving into its second decade with a few important changes. Most importantly, the IEEE Educational Society that was a co-sponsor of the journal for the first 10 years, is now the leading and only financial sponsor from this issue onward, with the IEEE Computer Society continuing as the technical co-sponsor. Accordingly, the journal’s home page has moved to the Web space of the IEEE Educational Society. Second, the annual page allocation for the journal has been further increased from 450 to 550 pages. This is an important change that will help us reduce our backlog and further shorten the time between acceptance of a paper and its assignment to a specific issue. Finally, due to an increase in publication costs, the journal is changing its open access policy.

As the readers know, for its first 10 years the journal was published online using a delayed open-access policy under which paying subscribers and per-article purchasers had access to newly published content, and then, 12 months after the publication of each issue, all readers had access to the content free of charge. As of February 1, 2018, the delayed open access policy has been suspended: all manuscripts submitted by January 31, 2018 will be published (when accepted) under the original 12 months delayed open access policy, but new manuscripts submitted on and after February 1, 2018 will be accessible (when accepted) only to subscribers and per-article purchasers. The paid open access option will remain available to individual papers. The journal remains committed to the idea of delayed open access and plans to restart this policy, but changing from 12 months to N years: i.e., papers will be open access after N years from first publication. The specific number (N) of years will be decided in the future, according to the financial evolution of the journal, and will be applied to all the papers published until that date, not only to papers submitted from that date. That is, all the papers published N or more years ago would be available in open access.

In this first issue of 2018, we would also like to bid farewell to several retiring editorial board members. Specifically, we thank Sven Esche, Marcelo Milrad, Christoph Rensing, and Julita Vassileva who have completed two consecutive three-year terms as associate editors. We also thank Ulrike Cress, Effie Law, Euan Lindsay, and Mykola Pechenizkiy who are retiring from the board to focus on other responsibilities. They were an important part of our success. To compensate for this loss of expertise, we are adding new editorial board members—stay tuned for the announcement in the next issue.

Finally, it is time to introduce the first issue of 2018, which is a special issue focused on “Innovation in Technologies for Educational Computing.” This issue is a joint project between two IEEE Journals, the *IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies* and the *IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing*. A team of guest editors including Fabrizio Lamberti, Gwo-Jen Hwang, Baltasar Fernández Manjón, and Wenping Wang carefully planned this issue, directed submissions to one of the two journals, selected the most interesting papers, and shepherded them through several rounds of reviewing and revision. The first part of the special issue was published last year in the *IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing*. This issue presents the second and the last part of this project. The guest editors provide a separate introduction to the special issue where they also briefly review the papers published there. Enjoy your reading!

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