Establishing a New Ad Hoc Committee for Promotion and Branding

New Appointments

Chair, Promotion and Branding Committee: Christopher Nemeth

Chris Nemeth has been appointed chair of the Promotion and Branding Committee to apply his background in marketing, along with his broad awareness of current SMCS interests and near-term plans, to help the Society fulfill the intent of this committee. In addition to his service to the SMCS, including vice president for human–machine systems and vice president for organization and planning, he has professional experience in advertising and broadcasting and 25 years of experience in public relations. As chair, he will work with the president to form the Promotion and Branding Committee, which will be active during the president’s term of service.

SMCS Liaison to the IEEE Women in Engineering Committee: Vanessa Batista Schramm

Vanessa Batista Schramm was appointed as liaison to the IEEE Women in Engineering Committee (WIEC) to participate in WIEC meetings and report to the SMCS on IEEE WIE status and activities as well as to support WIEC activities and programs at the SMCS level. This volunteer role includes additional duties aimed at a bidirectional information exchange between the SMCS and WIEC at respective events and in publications.

Batista Schramm is an assistant professor at the Federal University of Campina Grande (UFCG), Brazil. At UFCG, she serves as advisor for its IEEE WIE student affinity group and coordinator of a project focused on promoting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics areas among young girls from public high schools in Brazil. She has received recognition awards for both of these activities in the last several years.

Chair, Industrial Liaison Committee: Christopher Nemeth

Chris Nemeth has been appointed chair of the Industrial Liaison Committee to build a team of SMCS volunteers who will work together to develop a program of activity that will strengthen ties with industry. His experience includes research and development roles at major commercial firms including SPSS, Herman Miller Corporation, and Applied Research Associates. As chair, he will lead committee efforts to encourage new members from industry to join SMCS, promote SMCS industry member activity through activities and electronic communications, and encourage industry support for SMCS activities, such as workshops and student research awards. In addition, the chair is designated as the SMCS point of contact for the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) to help cultivate an ongoing strategic collaboration.
focused on systems engineering and human systems integration, leveraging complementary SMCS and INCOSE strengths in research and industry relevance for mutual benefit. The chair of the Industrial Liaison Committee will work with the SMCS vice presidents for technical activities to explore and establish strategic technical relationships between SMCS technical committees and INCOSE working groups that have similar technical scope.

About the Author
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Five Members Elected to the SMCS Board of Governors

Prof. Ljiljana Trajkovic, senior past president of the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society (SMCS) and chair of the Nominations Committee, announced that the following members have been elected to the SMCS Board of Governors for three-year terms (1 January 2018–31 December 2020):

◆ Giancarlo Fortino
◆ David Mendonça
◆ Tadahiko Murata
◆ Peng Shi
◆ Thomas I. Strasser.

The IEEE received 1,193 ballots. This was an increase of 1.24% in the results from the previous year: 24.77% compared to 23.53% in 2016. Following are the bios of the new members of the board.

Giancarlo Fortino

Giancarlo Fortino is an educator, businessman, and scientist working in the areas of wearable computing and body-area networking, the Internet of Things (IoT), agent-based computing, wireless sensor networks, pervasive and cloud computing, multimedia networks, business process management, data mining, and associated multidomain applications.

In 2000, he earned a Ph.D. degree in computer and systems engineering from the University of Calabria, Rende, Italy, and is currently a professor of computer engineering (since 2006) in the Department of Informatics, Modeling, Electronics and Systems (DIMES) at the University of Calabria, where he is the director of the Smart, Pervasive and Mobile Systems Engineering laboratory.

He is also a foreign expert and adjunct professor at the Wuhan University of Technology, China; adjunct senior fellow at the Institute for High Performance Computing and Networking (Italian National Research Council), Rende, Italy; and an expert at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China. Previously, he held visiting researcher and professor positions at the International Computer Science Institute, Berkeley, California, and the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia, respectively.

He is the author of two books and more than 25 edited volumes, 50 book chapters, 100 journal articles, and 130 conference publications. The impact of Fortino’s research is evidenced by the large number of citations (approximately 4,000) and an h-index of 34 (according to Google Scholar) that positioned him in the Top Italian Scientists ranking of the VIA Academy.

His specific research contributions lie in two broad categories. The first is in the area of networking, embedded computing and software engineering for body-sensor networks, and, more in general, IoT systems, with applications in mobile health and smart environments (homes, offices, factories, energy grids, ports, and cities). Specifically in the body-sensor networks area, he is known for being the leader of the open-source Signal Processing in Node Environment (SPINE) project and the main SPINE-based article, which resulted in him receiving the 2014 SMCS Andrew P. Sage Best Transactions Paper award. The second is in the area of agent-based computing, including agent-oriented software engineering, agent-based simulation, mobile agents, and state charts-based formalisms for multiagent system modeling and analysis. Additional interests include cooperative and multimedia-oriented content distribution networks, distributed computing frameworks for distributed data mining, risk-aware business process management methods and tools, and nanobionetworking. In his research areas, he participated in many local, national, and international research projects and currently is the deputy coordinator of the European-Union–funded H2020 INTER-IoT project aiming to provide novel solutions for current and future IoT technology interoperability issues.

Fortino’s contributions to the profession include outstanding professional service. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE, and a member of the SMCS, IEEE Computer Society, and

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