

Preface

This book is a part of the Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on Intelligent Systems and Knowledge Engineering (ISKE 2013) held in Shenzhen, China, during November 20–23, 2013. ISKE is a prestigious annual conference on ISKE with the past events held in Shanghai (2006, 2011), Chengdu (2007), Xiamen (2008), Hasselt, Belgium (2009), Hangzhou (2010), and Beijing (2012). Over the past few years, ISKE has matured into a well-established series of international conferences on Intelligent Systems and Knowledge Engineering and related fields over the world.

ISKE 2013 received 609 submissions in total from about 1,434 authors from 18 countries (United States of American, Singapore, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, United Kingdom, Portugal, Norway, Korea, Japan, Germany, Finland, France, China, Argentina, Australia, and Belgium). Based on rigorous reviews by the Program Committee members and reviewers, among 263 papers contributed to ISKE 2013; high-quality papers were selected for publication in the proceedings with an acceptance rate of 43 %. The papers were organized into 22 cohesive sections covering all major topics of intelligent and cognitive science and applications. In addition to the contributed papers, the technical program included four plenary speeches by Ronald R. Yager (Iona College, USA), Yu Zheng (Microsoft Research Asia), and Hamido Fujita (Iwate Prefectural University, Japan).

As organizers of this conference, we are grateful to Shenzhen University, Science in China Press, Chinese Academy of Sciences for their sponsorship, grateful to IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, Chinese Association for Artificial Intelligence, State Key Laboratory on Complex Electronic System Simulation, Science and Technology on Integrated Information System Laboratory, Southwest Jiaotong University, University of Technology, Sydney for their technical co-sponsorship. We would also like to thank the members of the Advisory Committee for their guidance, the members of the International Program Committee and additional reviewers for reviewing the papers, and members of the Publications Committee for checking the accepted papers in a short period of time. Particularly, we are grateful to the publisher, Springer, for publishing the proceedings in the prestigious series of *Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing*. Meanwhile, we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to the plenary speakers, special session organizers, session chairs, and student helpers.

In addition, there are still many colleagues, associates, and friends who helped us in immeasurable ways. We are also grateful to them all. Last but not the least, we are thankful to all the authors and participants for their great contributions that made ISKE 2013 successful.

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