

Preface

The International Symposium on Integrated Uncertainty in Knowledge Modelling and Decision Making (IUKM) aims to provide a forum for the exchange of research results as well as ideas for and experience of applications among researchers and practitioners involved in all aspects of uncertainty management and application. This conference series started in 2010 at the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Ishikawa, under the title of the International Symposium on Integrated Uncertainty Management and Applications (IUM 2010). The name of the conference series was then changed to its current title at the second edition held in October 2011 at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, while the third edition was held in July 2013 at Beihang University, Beijing, China.

The fourth IUKM was held during October 15–17, 2015 in Nha Trang City, Vietnam, and was jointly organized by the Pacific Ocean University (POU), VNU-Hanoi University of Engineering and Technology (VNU-UET), Hanoi National University of Education (HNUE), and Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (JAIST).

The organizers received 58 submissions. Each submission was peer reviewed by at least two members of the Program Committee. While 26 papers (45%) were accepted after the first round of reviews, 17 others were conditionally accepted and underwent a rebuttal stage in which authors were asked to revise their paper in accordance with the reviews, and prepare an extensive response addressing the reviewers' concerns. The final decision was made by the program chairs. Finally, a total of 40 papers (69%) were accepted for presentation at IUKM 2015 and publication in the proceedings. The keynote and invited talks presented at the symposium are also included in this volume.

As a follow-up of the symposium, a special volume of the *Annals of Operations Research* is anticipated to include a small number of extended papers selected from the symposium as well as other relevant contributions received in response to subsequent open calls. These journal submissions will go through a fresh round of reviews in accordance with the journal's guidelines.

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We would like to express our appreciation to the members of the Program Committee for their support and cooperation in this publication. We are also thankful to Alfred Hofmann, Anna Kramer, and their colleagues at Springer for providing a meticulous service for the timely production of this volume. Last, but certainly not the

least, our special thanks go to all the authors who submitted papers and all the attendees for their contributions and fruitful discussions that made this symposium a success.

We hope that you will find this volume helpful and motivating.

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