

# Preface

The 20th Iberoamerican Congress on Pattern Recognition CIARP 2015 (Congreso IberoAmericano de Reconocimiento de Patrones) was the 20th edition of a yearly event organized by scientific associations of Iberoamerican countries in this field.

In this special anniversary edition, as in previous years, the congress received contributions from many countries beyond Iberoamerica. The papers presented research results in the areas of pattern recognition, biometrics, image processing, computer vision, speech recognition, and remote sensing to name a few. The papers tackle theoretical as well as applied contributions in many fields related to the main topics of the conference. In this way, CIARP 2015 continued the tradition of an event that fosters scientific exchange, discussions, and cooperation among researchers.

CIARP 2015 received 185 contributions authored by researchers from 32 countries, 11 of which are Iberoamerican countries. These contributions were reviewed in a double-blind process and 95 papers were accepted.

Following tradition, CIARP 2015 was a single-track conference in which 40 papers were selected for oral presentation and 55 were presented in poster sessions. The type of presentation did not imply quality differences. The poster sessions were organized by topic to encourage discussions among authors and attendees.

A selection of the accepted papers will be published in a special issue of the *IPOL (Image Processing OnLine) Journal*. After the reviewing process an evaluation committee pre-selected a set of papers in the area of image processing and invited the authors to submit an extended version to IPOL. To facilitate the production of all the materials needed to publish the papers in IPOL, these authors were also invited to attend the Training and Hands-On in Reproducible Research Workshop (THORR Workshop) that took place during November 13–14 at the Facultad de Ingeniería, Universidad de la República. This workshop was dedicated to providing the necessary tools for reproducible research (RR) and training on the *IPOL Journal* publication process. Also, a special section of *Pattern Recognition Letters* has been added to include two papers by the researchers selected as the IAPR-CIARP 2015 Best Paper Award and the Aurora Pons-Porrata Award.

The IAPR-CIARP Best Paper Award recognizes outstanding contributions and is aimed at acknowledging excellence and originality of both theoretical contributions and practical applications to the field of pattern recognition and data mining. On the other hand, the CIARP Aurora Pons-Porrata Award is given to a living woman in recognition to her outstanding contribution to the field of pattern recognition or data mining.

Beside the presentation of the 95 selected contributions, four keynotes were given by Professors Magnus Fontes (Lund University, Sweden and Institut Pasteur, France), Rene Vidal (Johns Hopkins University, USA), Guillermo Sapiro (Duke University, USA), and Josef Kittler (University of Surrey, UK).

CIARP 2015 was organized by the Uruguayan IAPR Chapter, including members from Universidad de la República and Universidad Católica del Uruguay, with the endorsement of the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR) and the sponsorship of the following national associations: Argentine Society for Pattern Recognition (SARP-SADIO), the Special Interest Group of the Brazilian Computer Society (SIGPR-SBC), the Chilean Association for Pattern Recognition (AChiRP), the Cuban Association for Pattern Recognition (ACRP), the Mexican Association for Computer Vision, Neural Computing and Robotics (MACVNR), the Spanish Association for Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis (AERFAI), and the Portuguese Association for Pattern Recognition (APRP).

We acknowledge the work of all members of the Organizing Committee and of the Program Committee for the rigorous work in the reviewing process. We thank the partial funding of the Administración del Mercado Eléctrico (ADME), the Agencia Nacional de Investigación e Innovación (ANII), the French Embassy in Montevideo, Sonda, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, and CSIC - Universidad de la República.

November 2015

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Progress in Pattern Recognition, Image Analysis,  
Computer Vision, and Applications  
20th Iberoamerican Congress, CIARP 2015, Montevideo,  
Uruguay, November 9-12, 2015, Proceedings  
Pardo, A.; Kittler, J. (Eds.)  
2015, XXI, 787 p. 242 illus. in color., Softcover  
ISBN: 978-3-319-25750-1