Preface

The twin volumes of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* constitute the proceedings of the 14th International Symposium on Neural Networks (ISNN 2017) held during June 21–26, 2017, in Sapporo, Hakodate, and Muroran, Hokkaido, Japan. Building on the success of the previous events, ISNN has become a well-established series of popular and high-quality conferences on the theory and methodology of neural networks and their applications. This year's symposium was held for the third time outside China, in Hokkaido, a beautiful island in Japan. As usual, it achieved great success. ISNN aims at providing a high-level international forum for scientists, engineers, educators, and students to gather so as to present and discuss the latest progress in neural network research and applications in diverse areas. It encouraged open discussion, disagreement, criticism, and debate, and we think this is the right way to push the field forward.

Based on the rigorous peer-reviews by the Program Committee members and reviewers, 135 high-quality papers from 25 countries and regions were selected for publication in the LNCS proceedings. These papers cover many topics of neural network-related research including intelligent control, neurodynamic analysis, memristive neurodynamics, computer vision, signal processing, machine learning, optimization etc. Many organizations and volunteers made great contributions toward the success of this symposium. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to City University of Hong Kong and Hokkaido University for their sponsorship, the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, the International Neural Network Society, and the Japanese Neural Network Society for their technical co-sponsorship. We would also like to sincerely thank all the committee members for all their great efforts in organizing the symposium. Special thanks go to the Program Committee members and reviewers whose insightful reviews and timely feedback ensured the high quality of the accepted papers and the smooth flow of the symposium. We would also like to thank Springer for their cooperation in publishing the proceedings in the prestigious *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* series. Finally, we would like to thank all the speakers, authors, and participants for their support.

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