

Editorial

Dear readers: Welcome to the 3rd issue of our 2024 SMCS eNewsletter! For those in the Northern hemisphere, I hope you had a lovely summer and are now recharged for a new Fall semester. To those in the Southern hemisphere, enjoy your spring and remember: summer is just around the corner!

In this Issue, Dr. Nihad Bassis presents a Featured Article titled “Lessons Learned in the Wild West of AI Projects”. In this article, Dr. Bassis shares what he has learned over the years in applying AI solutions across different sectors, from the banking industry, to government, to agencies such as UNESCO and the UN. Some very useful insights to take note!

In this issue, we also introduce a new column called “Academic Corner,” to be led by Associate Editor Hang Su. In this inaugural column, we interview SMC Member Prof. Samia Bouchafa-Bruneau from Université d'Evry Paris-Saclay, who shares the story of how she entered the research world of robotics and automation, describes where she sees the field going in the next decade, and gives some timely advice to young researchers wishing to enter the field.

Next, in the “Student Corner” column, we showcase the work of two SMCS student authors. For News items, we welcome three new SMCS Student Chapters in India and a new Nanjing SMC Chapter. We provide reports on several Distinguished Lectures, as well as present Calls for Hosting Distinguished Lectures. Lastly, we present several Calls for Participation and Call for Papers for several SMCS-sponsored events, including a Call for Special Issue papers for the SMCS Transactions on Human-Machine Systems.

I hope you enjoy this September issue of the SMCS eNewsletter. Our editorial team (A. Ávila, L. Dong, J. Dong, C. Lai, D. Paul, W. Qi, and H. Su) worked hard over the last few months to collect material we feel is relevant and of interest to you. If you have any suggestions for improvements, please let us know.

And we are now just a few weeks away from our flagship SMC conference, to be held in Kuching, Malaysia from October 6-10, 2024. I hope to see many of you there in person!



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