FOREWORD

Special Section on Award-winning Papers

The information and systems society (ISS) of the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE) publishes the Japanese-edition Transactions as well as the English edition. Whereas valuable papers are presented in the Japanese edition, these papers do not reach a wide audience in the world. Among all of such valuable papers, we selected those each of which won the excellent paper award recently for publishing this special section called "special section on award-winning papers". All papers have been extended from their previous versions published in the Japanese edition so that their state-of-the-arts are introduced.

Since the transactions of the IEICE-ISS are open-access journal since Jan., 2017, I hope that all papers included in this special section will reach a number of researchers and engineers in the world and help them to improve their research and development activities.

On behalf of the guest editorial committee of this special section, I would like to express our appreciation to all of the authors for submitting their excellent papers. I would also like to thank the editorial committee members and all the reviewers for their contributions and outstanding comments during the reviewing process.

Special Section Editorial Committee Members:
Guest Editors: Takashi Yokota (Utsunomiya University), Yukihiko Yamashita (Tokyo Institute of Technology), Hisashi Kawai (NICT)
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Norimichi Ukita (Toyota Technological Institute), Guest Editor-in-Chief

Norimichi Ukita *(Senior Member)* is a professor at the graduate school of engineering, Toyota Technological Institute (TTI), Japan. He received the Ph.D degree in Informatics from Kyoto University, Japan, in 2001. After working for five years as an assistant professor at NAIST, he became an associate professor in 2007 and moved to TTI in 2016. He was a research scientist of PRESTO, JST from 2002 to 2006, and a visiting research scientist at Carnegie Mellon University from 2007 to 2009. His main research interests are multi-object tracking and human pose and activity recognition.