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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Machine Vision and its Applications

The Fifteenth IAPR Conference on Machine Vision Applications, MVA2017, was held at Nagoya University, Japan, from May 8 through 12, 2017. Reflecting the growing expectation and demands for machine vision and its applications, the conference attracted 194 submissions. We selected 36 oral and 94 poster presentations, and the conference was quite active in a friendly atmosphere. Inspired by the great success of the conference, we planned this special section and asked the conference participants and other researchers in this field to submit papers. We have received 27 papers that cover from basic techniques of machine vision to a wide variety of its applications, among which 13 papers were selected for publication through a rigorous reviewing process. We believe that all the selected papers show the high quality of current machine vision research and contribute to the next steps in this research field. On behalf of the 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.

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Norimichi Ukita (Toyota Technological Institute), Guest Editor-in-Chief

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**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.

