# Message from the TCCI Chair

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Bulletin, the official publication of the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Computational Intelligence (TCCI).

The TCCI is a new technical committee of the IEEE Computer Society. I was elected to chair the Task Force on Virtual Intelligence (TFVI) in April 2002. On May 8, 2002, at an IEEE Computer Society Technical Activities Board (TAB) meeting in Portland, Oregon, I presented a proposal to move the TFVI to a technical committee (TC) and change the TC name from Virtual Intelligence to Computational Intelligence (CI). The proposal was unanimously accepted by the TAB meeting, and formally approved by the IEEE Computer Society Board of Governors in July 2002.

Since the approval of the TCCI, I have formed an Executive Committee to manage TCCI activities with the following members.

- Benjamin W. Wah (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA) is the past chair of the TFVI. He will provide advice for the Chair on TCCI awards and interactions with sister societies as well as on other important issues of the TCCI activities.

- Nick J. Cercone (Dalhousie University, Canada) looks after student affairs. He is looking at the possibilities of (1) providing student grants to help defray the cost of attending TCCI conferences, (2) encouraging student poster sessions with a supplement to the TCCI conference proceedings, (3) arranging for industry to meet students, and (4) promoting the interaction between TCCI conference invited speakers and graduate students.

- Gusz Eiben (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands) takes care of curriculum issues, including the coverage of CI degree programs at universities. Professor Eiben believes typical CI components would involve evolutionary computing, neurocomputing, fuzzy computing, machine learning and data mining, adaptive and intelligent agents, and self-organizing systems.

- Vipin Kumar (University of Minnesota, USA) deals with publication matters. Our publication activities will involve possible special issues on Computational Intelligence related topics in IEEE Transactions.

- Jiming Liu (Hong Kong Baptist University, China) has been appointed as the Editor for the IEEE Computational Intelligence Bulletin. He has set up an editorial board and a plan for the publication of this Bulletin. The Bulletin will cover news and announcements of the TCCI activities, feature articles, book reviews and other Computational Intelligence relevant items.

- Ning Zhong (Maebashi Institute of Technology, Japan) is the Vice Chair for conferences and membership activities. The TCCI currently sponsors the IEEE International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI), and co-sponsors the IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM), the IEEE/WIC International Conference on Web Intelligence (WI), and the IEEE/WIC International Conference on Intelligence Agent Technology (IAT).

We have a standing invitation to join the TCCI for faculty, students, researchers and application developers from different Computational Intelligence related areas, such as artificial neural networks, fuzzy logic, evolutionary optimization, rough sets, data mining, Web intelligence, intelligent agent technology, parallel and

distributed information processing, and virtual reality. You can visit the IEEE Computer Society's website (http://computer.org/tcsignup/) and fill out the TC membership form there.

I believe Computational Intelligence can play a very important role in the IEEE Computer Society's activities, and the Executive Committee will do our best to promote more activities sponsored by the TCCI and advance the TCCI's role both within the IEEE Computer Society and in collaboration with related sister societies. The TCCI has been planning on a number of exciting activities, as indicated in the above Executive Committee members' roles, and the participation and contributions from our TCCI members are essential. If you have any suggestions on any of the above activities or on other possible and worthwhile activities, please let me know.

I hope you will enjoy reading this Bulletin. If you need any more information about TCCI, please visit our website at http://www.cs.uvm.edu/~xwu/tcci/index.shtml

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Xindong Wu

(University of Vermont, USA)

Chair, TCCI -

IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Computational Intelligence

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# Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The 21st century will continue to be computation-centric; social and economic development will be bench-marked by how intelligently the power of computing can be utilized and extended. As the official publication of the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Computational Intelligence, the IEEE Computational Intelligence Bulletin will provide a new gateway for researchers and practitioners to have direct access to the latest information on advanced research, industrial development, and professional activities in the major techni-cal areas of Computational Intelligence, to share ideas and experiences, and to stimulate dialogues on emerging or challenging issues.

This first issue of the Bulletin presents an excellent coverage of some of the most challenging problems for today's as well as future Computational Intelligence community. The issue contains two feature articles: one on Web-log mining for request prediction and another on context-based problem solving in intelligent agents, an article on the coming Bison project in self-organizing P2P systems, and a R&D profile report on a newly established Cork Constraint Computation Centre. Last but not the least, it provides a book review of *Blondie24, Playing at the Edge of AI* and a highlight of several major upcoming events.

This debut of the first issue of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Bulletin shows the result of months of collaborative hard work by all the members of the Editorial Board. I would like to express my gratitude to their timely and professional efforts in working closely with contributing authors on the contents and presentations.

I hope that you will indeed enjoy reading the IEEE Computational Intelligence Bulletin, and find it informa-tive, insightful, and inspiring.

Jiming Liu
(Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong)
Editor-in-Chief
IEEE Computational Intelligence Bulletin