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Contents

Part One

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11 Video Coding II
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12 Motion Estimation
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Introduction

We would like to extend a warm welcome to each of you. We have an exciting technical program of outstanding papers in all areas of image processing and communications.

We would like to acknowledge the tremendous work done by the program committee who reviewed the outstanding papers that appear in the conference proceedings. Their hard work has allowed us to assemble a superb and highly selective technical program.

This year, VCIP has received a large number of submissions consisting of 170 papers. Among them, 17 were invited papers to special sessions. We were able to accept only 87 regular papers to the conference including 42 papers for the oral sessions. The overall acceptance for regular paper submissions was at a highly selective rate of 56%, and a rate of only 27% for oral sessions. This process has made VCIP one of the most selective conferences in image processing.

VCIP is the first conference devoted to image processing and communications. It has become a leading forum for the presentation of fundamental research results and technological advances in the field of visual communication and image processing. The high selectivity of this year's program will enhance VCIP's reputation as the elite forum for high-quality conference publications in image processing and communications.

We would also like to thank the organizers of the three exciting special sessions in several innovative research areas in image processing and communications:

The Mathematics of Imaging
Organizer: Mireille Boutin, Purdue Univ.

Collaborative Object Tracking
Organizers: Fatih M. Porikli, Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs.
Ying Wu, Northwestern Univ.

Next-Generation Video Coding Technologies
Organizers: C.-C. J. Kuo, Univ. of Southern California
Shawmin Lei, Sharp Labs. of America, Inc.
Shijun Sun, Sharp Labs. of America, Inc.

Finally, we are very grateful for the support of IS&T and SPIE for making our work as conference chairs as easy as possible. We would also like to express our gratitude for the support of Hewlett Packard, Kodak, Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs, and

Motorola. Their generous contribution has allowed us to select several outstanding papers to receive best paper awards.

We hope that your experience in this year's VCIP conference will be rewarding and memorable, and we look forward to seeing you again in the future.

Chang Wen Chen
Dan Schonfeld
Jiebo Luo
VCIP 2007 Conference Chairs