MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

The organizing committee is delighted to welcome you to the 2009 IEEE International Conference on Virtual Environments, Human-Computer Interfaces, and Measurement Systems (IEEE VECIMS 2009), held in Hong Kong, China, from May 11 to May 13, 2009.

In the same spirit as the previous series of VECIMS conferences dating back to 1996, the three-day program of VECIMS09 aims to extend and advance the use of virtual environments and human computer interaction technologies in the instrumentation and measurement field in an informal setting arranged to encourage the exchange of ideas and expertise about theory, methodologies and results which may further stimulate research activities or international collaboration. Delegates are encouraged to restrict their formal presentations to brief summaries, and to use the bulk of their allotted time to engage in extended dialogs with the participants. Appropriate subjects of discussion include, but are not restricted to, examinations of approaches and results, the rationale underlying particular methodologies, experimental and theoretical examinations, practical difficulties, insights, and extensions to other application areas.

VECIMS 2009 is held in parallel with the IEEE International Conference on Computational Intelligence for Measurement Systems and Applications (IEEE CIMSA 2009) due to their many common aspects and shared technologies. The parallel organization of the two conferences will allow for more interaction among the participants in the two events, and for more sharing of advanced knowledge and stimulating insights in a cross discipline environment.

A unique feature of this year's events is the organization of two special sessions "Special Session on Biomodeling and Bio-manufacturing" and "Special Session on Human Monitoring and Interface Systems" where both theoretical and practical knowledge related to the themes of the VECIMS conference is applied to new frontiers.

IEEE VECIMS 2009 promises to be a great experience for participants from all over the world, with an excellent technical program as well as social activities. We hope you could also enjoy the culture, the food and local hospitality.

Finally, the organizing committee wishes to acknowledge the sponsorship of the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society, and the generous financial support from K.C. Wong Education Foundation and The University of Hong Kong. Thanks are also due to all members of the Technical Program Committee. The assistance of all session chairmen, student helpers and secretaries is gratefully acknowledged.

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