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Berrin A. Yanikoglu
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Introduction

Information manifests itself in various media and many forms. The goal of the Document Recognition and Retrieval Conference is to provide a forum to bring together researchers working on all stages and various aspects of converting paper documents into searchable and repurposable media, spanning a wide-area including document recognition (converting document images into electronic form), keyword spotting (retrieving document images containing keywords), information extraction and retrieval from documents, and document repurposing.

The papers in this volume represent the state-of-the-art in diverse areas such as handwriting recognition, optical character recognition, document image processing, information retrieval, and classification. In addition, this year we have six papers in the Digital Publishing Special Sessions.

We are fortunate to have two invited talks by eminent veterans in OCR industry. Dr. István Marosi of Nuance Communications will talk on "Industrial OCR approaches: architecture, algorithms, and adaptation techniques" and Mr. Jim Fruchterman of Benetech will talk on "Document recognition serving people with disabilities."

New for this year, the Best Student Paper will be selected among papers whose lead authors are full-time students. We gratefully acknowledge Nuance Communications, the worldwide leading provider of imaging and speech technologies and solutions, for generously sponsoring this award.

We thank the program committee members and the SPIE conference organizers for their help in organizing the conference and for their help in the review process. We especially thank the participating researchers for their contributions to this cross-disciplinary conference.

As always, we want to hear from readers of this volume, and we encourage you to approach the conference co-chairs or any member of our distinguished program committee with suggestions for future improvements.

We hope everyone finds this year's conference stimulating and rewarding, with its unique opportunities for interaction.

Xiaofan Lin
Berrin A. Yanikoglu