

Editorial

THE IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON BIOMEDICAL CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS (TBioCAS) has established itself as one of the top journals for researchers to publish their findings, advances and results across the fields of biomedicine, circuits and systems. With increasing interest in interdisciplinary research, TBioCAS has succeeded in providing the community with a high quality, peer reviewed publication for this vibrant and growing field. The large number of research articles submitted annually to the TRANSACTIONS are testimonials to the rapid emergence and importance of the journal.

The impact factor of TBioCAS has risen to a record-high of 4.25, among the top-ranked IEEE journals in the field, thanks to the efforts of everyone involved, and in particular, to the past Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Mohamad Sawan. Being extremely cross-disciplinary from its start, TBioCAS has enjoyed an open-minded, vibrant research community within and outside IEEE CAS Society and EMB Society, with increasing size and impact.

January 2020 marked the beginning of our term as editors of TBioCAS. Despite the progress and achievements, lots of challenges still lie ahead for TBioCAS to maintain and improve its status as a main channel for the authors to publish their most recent and impactful results, and also for the readers to find the most relevant and most recent research findings. Beginning in 2020, TBioCAS will enjoy the leadership of two Associate Editors-in-Chief, with Prof. Timothy G. Constandinou responsible for special issues, and Prof. Kea-Tiong (Samuel) Tang responsible for digital media. Working together, we wish to better address the challenges faced by TBioCAS. In particular, we would like to highlight a few measures here.

Timeline: Authors always expect their articles to be handled properly and timely. In the last years, TBioCAS has shortened the review cycle and the average delay from first submission to final decision has been decreased from 24 weeks to 17.7 weeks by shortening the review duration for each step and action time by the AEs and EiCs. We will continue to improve this, with the help from a dynamic and energetic team of associated editors and reviewers. Timely online publication by IEEE Xplore is also important. Young researchers (newly graduated PhDs or current PhDs with strong publication records) are encouraged to join the reviewer team.

Special Issues: TBioCAS currently publishes special issues on the conferences including IEEE International Symposium on Circuits and Systems (ISCAS), IEEE Biomedical Circuits and Systems (BioCAS) Conference and IEEE International Solid-State Circuits Conference (ISSCC). Special issues, non-conference based, covering new and emerging topics will continue to be explored. We have just launched a call for proposals to solicit high quality proposals from our community – we invite you to let us know your ideas.

Review and Tutorials: We additionally plan to publish a few high-quality review and/or tutorial papers each year, highlighting emerging topics, helping for the researchers in the field to look at the past, present and future of specific research areas in depth and hopefully generate new ideas. The tutorials/reviews are expected to be up to 20 pages long and no over-length page fee will be charged to authors. The manuscript can be written by multiple authors, while the leading author must be a well-known expert in the field of the topic. You are welcome to contact us if you wish to submit such a proposal.

Digital media: With new opportunities for scientific communication using online and social media, we will be advancing our digital media engagement. Newsletter featuring the published issues of TBioCAS will be used to reach out to readers both inside and outside IEEE. The current TBioCAS website <http://ieee-cas.org/pubs/tbiocas> will be very important to disseminate information with regard to the journal and it shall be continually updated with the latest information. New media channels and platforms, have been explored for TBioCAS to reach a larger community in a more timely and more proactive way. And the links are:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ieee-transactions-on-biomedical-circuits-and-systems/>

<https://www.facebook.com/IEEEETBioCAS/>

<https://twitter.com/IEEEETBioCAS>

<https://www.instagram.com/ieeetbiocas/>

Journal Impact: TBioCAS vows to increase its impact and reach through the research community, whilst maintaining its current status as one of the very top journals in the field of biomedical engineering. In addition to traditional readers within the CAS Society, the journal should reach out more ardently to EMBS, the IEEE Life Science Technical Community (<http://lifesciences.ieee.org/>), IEEE BRAIN Initiative and outside IEEE.

We look forward to the opportunity to further serving TBioCAS in bringing it to new heights. With the support from the community, the hard work by the authors, reviewers, associate editors, we have no doubt that this journal will continue to grow and improve among the finest of IEEE.

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