Special Issue Editorial on Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Informatics (BMEI 2009)

Riyi Shi

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Introduction

This special issue of the Journal of Medical Systems highlights some of the best papers of the Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Informatics (BMEI 2009). Held from October 17th to 19th in Tianjin, China, this event included presentations by some of the world leaders in biomedicine and bioinformatics and was attended by professors, graduate students, and industrial professionals. Diverse topic areas were presented such as healthcare informatics, telemedicine, wireless medical systems, biomedical image processing, and computational drug discovery. Pairing this varied collection of scientific and computational expertise with the Second International Congress on Image and Signal Processing (CISP 2009) allowed for engineers, systems analysts, physicians, and biomedical researchers to meet and exchange ideas.

The 3 days of the conference were filled with excellent presentations by noteworthy researchers from hundreds of universities, dozens of countries, and several continents. Keynote speakers in neural engineering, protein modeling, image processing and signal analysis outlined significant challenges in their respective fields, while individual presenters spoke on their recent experiments. From the 1,018 submissions to the conference, 499 were selected for inclusion in the proceedings. From these, nine papers were chosen as among the best in their field and have been

included in this special issue. Selected articles from the conference proceedings were expanded and revised by their authors before undergoing peer review. While these papers might be outside the normal scope of this journal, these articles were found to have special importance in describing significant advances in how medical and experimental information may be obtained and processed for clinical applications. Included are articles on surgical planning, injury modeling, radiological analysis, and wireless biometric networking.

The 2009 BMEI conference was a phenomenal success, and the other organizers and I are pleased to have this chance to showcase some excellent work that was presented there. We also wish to thank the members of the organizing committee, particularly Lipo Wang, Ph.D., the chairman of the Steering Committee. We are also grateful to the Tianjin University of Technology and the City Tianjin for hosting the conference, and to the speakers, chairs, contributors and student helpers who made this event possible. Finally, thanks to the Journal of Medical Systems for providing a venue to publish these articles.

Sincerely,
Riyi Shi, M.D., PhD
Guest Editor, Journal of Medical Systems
BMEI 2009 Program Co-Chair
Professor of Neuroscience and Biomedical Engineering
Purdue University
US

R. Shi (✉)
Purdue University,
West Lafayette, USA
e-mail: riyi@purdue.edu