Editorial

Zhiping Lin

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I would like to update some statistics of MSSP in this annual Editorial. After increasing in the past two years, the latest impact factor of MSSP has dropped slightly from 0.953 in the previous year (2011) to now 0.857 (2012). The number of submissions, including both regular papers and special issue papers, has also dropped slightly from 150 in 2012 to 131 in 2013 (up to 3 December 2013, at the time of writing this Editorial). This could be seen as a healthy correction and it indicates that the journal is now reaching a stable state. The good news is that all the 150 papers submitted in 2012 have final decisions as of today, meaning that all of the papers currently under review are of <1 year in the system. Among the 128 regular papers submitted in 2012, 29 papers were accepted, giving an acceptance rate of about 23 % (29/128) for regular papers. With the help of the associate editors, reviewers and authors, the average number of days for the first review of a manuscript has continued to drop to 66 days in 2012. At the time of writing this Editorial (3 December 2013), among the 131 papers submitted in 2013, 101 of them have already had final decisions.

The journal is also keeping its tradition of balancing regular papers with special issue papers. In 2013 (issue 24:4) we published the special issue on “Multidimensional systems theory and control”, guest edited by associate editor Lorenzo Ntogramatzidis and editorial board member Krzysztof Galikowski. In 2014 (issue 25:2) we will publish the special issue on “Multidimensional signal processing applications”, guest edited by associate editors Joerg Velten and Rudolf Rabenstein. Another special issue on “Symbolic methods in multidimensional systems theory”, guest edited by associate editors Alban Quadrat and Eva Zerz, is now in progress and is planned for the last issue of 2014. Several possible special issues are currently at the stage of discussion.

Since my previous editorial in the March 2013 issue, we welcome the new associate editors: Yuntao Wu and Chuan-Yu Chang. After serving as associate editors for many years, Paula Rocha and Shiva Shankar have now served in the capacity of editorial board members.

Z. Lin (✉)
School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Nanyang Technological University,
Nanyang Avenue 639798, Singapore
e-mail: EZPLin@ntu.edu.sg

We also want to take this occasion to thank outgoing editorial board member Brian Anderson for his long and valuable service to our journal. I am pleased to see that the editorial team of MSSP has now also reached a stable state.