Welcome from the new Editor(s)-in-Chief

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Editor-in-Chief

Peter J. Thomas
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As the new Editor-in-Chief and Co-Editors-in-Chief, it is our pleasure to welcome you to Biological Cybernetics. We come from different fields—theoretical physics (BL), applied mathematics (PJT), and artificial intelligence (JMF) but also have extensive experience with experimental collaborators in biology (PJT, BL) or do neurobiological experiments ourselves (JMF). Working within such distinct disciplines, we cover a large part of the biological ‘cyberspace’ that is the playground of the journal’s articles. For areas in which we do not have direct expertise, we are fortunate to rely on an editorial board of reputable international experts, a list that we were able to expand substantially in the last months.

It is an exciting time to be working in the field of Biological Cybernetics, which continues to experience rapid growth. With the ever-increasing availability of computational power, more efficient sensors and actuators and a greater under-

standing of the biological mechanisms mediating action, perception and cognition, there has never been a better time for research in our field. Looking at the long history of this respected journal and its many seminal contributions to the general problem of control and communication in biological systems in general, and to computational neuroscience in particular, it may feel somewhat of a challenge to continue this success story in times when many new online journals on related themes start appearing month by month. We agree with our esteemed predecessor, Leo van Hemmen (see Editorial of the previous issue), that a careful and thorough review process is essential to maintaining the quality of publishing that has been a hallmark of Biological Cybernetics. In this respect, the invaluable and time-consuming efforts of our referees and handling editors cannot be praised strongly enough.

What is to be covered in the journal is nowadays more relevant than ever, be it new paradigms for information processing and learning in networks of spiking neurons, new general principles for control and feedback in neurobiological or other physiological systems, or new theoretical foundations for computer–brain interfaces—to name but a few of the topics that come to mind. Progress in our field will rely on high-quality publications, some of which will elucidate in depth the details of specific mechanisms while others will bridge across fields and systems and integrate knowledge. As editors, we will do our best to further such works for the benefit of the readers.

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