Editorial

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With the end of 2019, an opportunity arises to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of our Journal over the years. I would like to offer words of gratitude to our readers, our contributors, and our Editorial Board for their support of the Journal and its mission. The names of the Departmental and Associate Editors are available on the Journal web page (<https://springer.com/journal/10726>) as well as inside of the cover page of every issue.

My special thanks go to Adiel Almeida, João Climaco, Ingmar Geiger, Hannu Nurmi, and Rudolf Vetschera, Departmental Editors and Senior Associate Editors, who shared ideas and provided editorial guidance. I am also indebted to Kathleen O’Keefe, the Editorial Executive, who has been helping me in processing the submissions and the collection of data for this editorial.

I would also like to express my appreciation of the work of the editorial team at Springer. Jolanda Voogd became our Publishing Senior Editor in 2019 and she has been helping the editors to navigate the recent changes related to the data policy. She also made a number of suggestions including publishing a virtual open issue with selected articles, which had been published earlier in the Journal. Jolanda also made an excellent presentation of the 2018 Publisher’s Report. The report shows, among others, a continuing increase in Impact Factor, cite score, number of downloads, and other metrics. It also shows a 10% yearly increase in the number of papers submitted between 2017 and 2018, and a acceptance rate between 20 and 25%.

Laura de Kreij (Assistant Editor), Ambiga Selvaraj (Production Editor), and Ayshwarya Ganesan (Journal Editorial Office Assistant) continue helping the Editorial Board to improve the Journal’s web site, providing editorial support, and making sure that the issues are prepared and appear on time. They have been instrumental in making the Journal’s operations very efficient and making 2019 another successful year.

The aim of the Journal, as I wrote in the 2019 Editorial, is to provide scholars and practitioners involved with the different aspects of group decision and negotiation with content relevant to their work. The fields of study that belong to GDN are both those that are well established and those that are emerging. The established fields

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increasingly employ newly developed methods and technologies, while the new and emerging fields verify and adapt well-known theories to new circumstances. This means that the fields of study not only evolve but become increasingly intertwined – research in psychology and sociology often relies on artificial intelligence and decision support systems; economics incorporates social-psychological approaches; artificial intelligence increasingly relies on the results from psychology and management. To keep the Journal relevant to our readers we need to continue publishing high quality articles from established disciplines as well as the emerging ones.

Maintaining the multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary nature of the Journal and continuing to increase its high quality are challenging objectives and the Board strives to achieve them. We actively search for excellent manuscripts from economics, management, political science, psychology, sociology as well as artificial intelligence, computer science, neural science, engineering, and fuzzy systems. The challenge is to attract good manuscripts from these areas and to provide the best possible review process that increases the manuscripts' quality. In addition, we need to maintain the right balance of the fields of study covered so that a currently fashionable area does not overly dominate the issues.

I hope that our readers found articles published in Volume 27 to be of high quality, informative and relevant to their work. We will continue to maintain the high standards of the forthcoming Vol. 28. Therefore, we ask our readers to submit the results of their work, and encourage prospective authors to submit the results of their research and professional practices.

1 Volume 28 Overview

In order to show the interdisciplinary character of the Journal, I assessed the articles based on several criteria. This assessment is not very precise and the categorization is neither exclusive nor exhaustive. Many articles are assigned to more than one category, and in 2019, as in the earlier years, we miss articles in some important categories. The brief overview given below reflects the multiple perspectives and approaches to the problems associated with group decision-making and negotiation processes.

In all, 54 articles appear in Vol. 28; an increase of 7 articles over the number of articles that appeared in Vol. 27. Most of the articles (46) discuss theories and methods and illustrate their applications with examples. Eight articles discuss concrete applications in such domains as environment, policy-making, and dispute resolution. Regarding areas of research 22 (41%) articles deal with *group and team decision problems*, 11 (20%)—with *negotiation* processes, 11 (20%)—with *game models*, four (7%) focus on the *voting*, and six (11%) focus on *auctions and markets*.

From the methodological approach perspective, 19 articles discuss studies based on *qualitative approaches*, 23—on *quantitative models*, and 12—use a mix of quantitative and qualitative modelling techniques. Eleven articles present results from *experimental studies*, which test quantitative and/or qualitative models. One article focusses on *training* and two—on *learning*.

Socio-psychological traits are discussed in several articles. In particular, *emotions* are the focus of four articles exemplifying continuing interest of the research community in this area. Only one article discusses the emergence and evolution of such a significant issue as *trust*; another article focusses on the development of *interpersonal relationship* in negotiations. *Power* is the concern of one article and another article focusses on the negotiators' *motivational orientation*. Two articles focus on the impact of *biases* on the process and outcomes of multi-participant decision-making.

Culture and cross-cultural interactions are discussed in two articles. While this is an increase from the last year, we continue seek more papers on this important topic.

Among the formal approaches, *multiple criteria decision analysis* is the concern of five articles, *utility* of two, and the design and use of *scoring rules* are discussed in four articles. Six articles deal with uncertainty and risk.

Group and negotiation decision support (GDSS and NSS) are not particularly well represented in this volume—four articles deal specifically with different aspects of the system development, deployment, and use and with their various results in terms of objective and subjective outcomes. Two articles analyze the process and results of *electronic negotiations*, two are concerned with *electronic markets* and their participants, and three articles discuss *auctions*.

In the past, we published a few articles on AI, software agents and computer science; volume 28 contains only one article on the topic; its focus is modelling of argumentation between software agents. Given the growth and significance of these areas, this is not satisfactory but I expect this to change. Three papers that deal with AI issues have recently been submitted and we expect more submissions.

For several years, the Journal published articles discussing different aspects of *fuzzy sets* and *linguistic approaches*. Recently, we encouraged the authors to address the significance of these approaches in tackling practical issues. Nine papers appear in this volume. We plan to place more emphasis on the practical implications of the use of different fuzzy techniques in the context of group decision and negotiations.

2 Associate Editors

Group Decision and Negotiation is poised to become an even stronger and more widely recognized contributor to the broader group decision and negotiation discourse. Steps taken toward achieving this include broadening the Editorial Board in terms of the membership and countries represented on the Board. As of the end of 2019, the Board has 69 members from 19 countries.

The following eminent scholars committed to our Journal joined the Editorial Board:

William Bottom, Washington University, U.S.A.
João Paulo Costa, Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal
Masahide Horita, University of Tokyo, Japan
Sascha Kurz, Universitaet Bayreuth, Germany
Deng-Feng Li, Fuzhou University, China

Ece Tuncel, Webster University, USA
Jingjing Yao, IESEG School of Management, France

The Associate Editors who recently joined the Board have published excellent articles in the Journal and served as reviewers. I am grateful for their contribution and for assuring that the reviewing process is efficient and the reviews contain well-reasoned comments and comprehensive suggestions for the manuscript improvement.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I thank Matthias Jarke from the RWTH Aachen University, Bilyana Martinovski from the Stockholm University and Mark Klein from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for their outstanding work on the Board.

Matthias has been a Board member since the very beginning of the Journal. Bilyana and Mark have been involved with the Journal for many years; Bilyana has also been involved in the GDN Book Series. As of the end of the 2019, they retired from the Board.

Over the years, Bilyana, Matthias and Mark have generously offered their time and expertise as authors, reviewers and Associate Editors. *Thank you for your support and numerous contributions!*

3 Appreciation of Reviewers

The success of the Journal is due in a very large part to many members of the scholarly community who act as reviewers. Every editor who is involved in the reviewing process is grateful and appreciative of the reviewers' hard work and contribution. Many thanks go to all the reviewers who generously provided time, expert counsel and guidance on a voluntary basis. Without their outstanding work in submitting timely, unbiased, and thoughtful reviews, the Journal could not function.

Following the recently established process, I asked the Editors to nominate the best reviewers using such criteria as timeliness, critical suggestions for revision, thoroughness, willingness to contribute, and enthusiasm in supporting the Journal. Based on their recommendation, the ten recipients of the "Best 2019 Reviewer Award" are:

Martina Hartner-Thiefenthaler, Vienna University of Technology
Daisung Jang, the University of Queensland, Australia
Ginger Y. Ke, Memorial University, Canada
Philipp Melzer, University of Hohenheim, Germany
Alexandra Mislin, American University, U.S.A.
Gregory Northcraft, University of Illinois, U.S.A.
Julia Reif, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, Germany
Tamas Solymosi, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary
Haiyan Xu, Nanjing University of Astronautics and Aeronautics, China

Hong Zhang, the University of Queensland, Australia

Finally, members of the Editorial Board and I wish to gratefully acknowledge all those who have generously given their time to review papers submitted to Group Decision and Negotiation in 2019. You helped the authors to improve their work and the editors to make informed decisions. *Thank you!*

António José Abreu Silva, University of Coimbra
Atif Açıkgoz, University of Toronto
Heiner Ackermann, Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics
Lin Adrian, Kobenhavns Universitet
Byeong Seok Ahn, Chung-Ang University
Muhammad Akram, University of the Punjab
Emel Aktas, Cranfield University
Amer Al shishany, Hashemite University
Helena Almeida, Universidade do Algarve
Pavel Alvarez, Universidad de Occidente
Mikel Alvarez-Mozos, Universitat de Barcelona
Adriana Amaya, ESPAE Graduate School of Management
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Ouzhan Ahmet Arfık, Nuh Naci Yazgan Universitesi
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Shing Hung Au-Yeung, University of Macau
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Katharina Burger, University of Bristol
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Suzana Daher, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco
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Robert Davison, City University of Hong Kong

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Viktor Dörfler, Strathclyde Business School
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Michael Doumpos, Technical University of Crete
Sarah Doyle, University of Arizona
Juan Dubra, Universidad de Montevideo
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Timothy Dunne, Boise State University
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Gamal Eladl, Mansoura University
Ulle Endriss, UvA
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