From the Editor-in-Chief

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Dear Colleagues

It is with great pleasure and pride that I write this 30th year JINT anniversary Editorial. It is also with great respect that I register facts, which give credit to those who deserve it. It was Prof. Spyros Tzafestas who first understood the need to launch a journal with a focus on autonomous intelligent systems and intelligent robotics, regardless of whether there was agreement or disagreement about the definition of ‘intelligence’. JINT was the first publication that offered a forum for scientists and engineers, researchers and practitioners to present and publish their work on intelligent systems. JINT would not have been launched if it was not for the support of Springer, and in particular Ms. Nathalie Jacobs, who was onboard from day one – she continues to be even today the driving force. I have the privilege of working with her and her Assistant, Ms. Anneke Pot, who, along with Ms. Marie Veth Chua, Ms. Kathleen Pua and Ms. Dina Fragkedaki complete the JINT production team. They have earned and they continuously earn our admiration and respect for their efforts – thank you Ladies.

As the years went by, JINT consistently made, and makes, the case that intelligent and robotic systems deserve attention, and that traditional control methods and techniques fall short of expectations when it comes to complex engineering systems functioning in uncertain and dynamic environments. The results of this effort are evidenced by the increase in the number of submitted papers per year; a snapshot for the last 10 or so years is shown next.

A unique feature of JINT is the special section devoted to unmanned systems. Research and development in unmanned systems is at the forefront, worldwide, and we

Year	Total number of submitted Manuscripts	Number of articles accepted	Number of articles rejected
2008	164	64	100
2009	195	47	148
2010	371	104	267
2011	337	92	245
2012	419	149	270
2013	568	195	373
2014	536	117	419
2015	599	129	470
2016	460	108	352
2017	726	221	505
2018	179	59	120
Total	4554	1285	3269

now witness unprecedented applications in diverse civilian and public domains. It is one of our goals to establish JINT as *THE* main forum to publish research findings in this area.

This anniversary issue has a strong flavor of intelligent control of autonomous systems, offering a review and survey of research performed over the past 30 years. This is not the only work, but the issue allows for readers to search the literature (see the references of the papers) and find answers to relevant questions.

Prof. Tzafestas, the Founding Editor, presents next a detailed historical Editorial about JINT. You will enjoy reading it.

Enjoy the 30th year anniversary issue.

Kimon P. Valavanis
Editor-in-Chief

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