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Editor's Message to Special Issue on "Understanding, Technology, and Application of Interaction"

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Sponsored by 4 special interest groups as interest group of human computer interaction (HCI), interest group of groupware and network services (GN), interest group of ubiquitous computing system (UBI), and interest group on entertainment computing (EC), "Interaction" symposium has been held every year. This symposium consists of general lectures with rigorous peer review as approximately 3 times of selection ratio and a hundred and several tens of interactive presentations, and since all of those are well received, the symposium has been developed as gathering over 600 participants in recent years. At Interaction 2012, it gathered approximately 700 participants with the theme of "Interaction that leads to future" while executed the reformation to change the number of paper pages for interactive presentation from 2-4 pages to 6 pages as a fundamental rule, and then presented 18 general lectures and 154 interactive presentations (including demonstration of general lecturers). Since studies in relation to interaction make rapid progress, it is extremely important to provide an opportunity for timely discussion culture. For that reason, a special edition for interaction was set in accordance with Interaction 2012 and provided an opportunity to immediately make available in public as extensively collecting presentation papers and related studies for Interaction 2012. 25 outstanding papers among 43 papers submitted for the event were selected and recorded while the author who served as a program committee chairperson of Interaction 2012 became a guest editor and main program committee members for Interaction 2012 as well as those who are deeply related to interaction study became editing committee members. However, the presentations of 10 papers assessed as outstanding by the Interaction 2012 program committee were selected as recommended papers. The break-down was 8 papers from general lecture presentations (top 18.6% for the number of submitted papers) and 2 interactive presentations (top 1.3% for the number of submitted papers). Those papers could be selected and recorded in this special edition after encouraging authors to submit and completing the regular peer review examination.

The selection ratio of general submission for non-recommended papers was higher than last year, yet it not only included many papers selected as general lecture at Interaction 2012 but it is considered that the quality of papers was rather

higher since the writing with consideration of the symposium would be completely feasible as the number of paper pages for interactive presentation was increased from 2-4 pages to 6 pages as a fundamental rule and the period of 3 months or more from the end of 2012 to a deadline of paper was secured for this special edition.

For the editing of this special edition, I would like to dedicate my deep appreciation to Dr. Tsutomu Terada and Dr. Kenji Suzuki as organizer as well as editing committee members and referees of this special edition.

Furthermore, I carried out a reformation for "not naming" a session title when structuring the program at Interaction 2012. I made the decision because this field has many cross-disciplinary studies, and deciding a category would be demerit or disadvantage for authors or making a difficult decision helplessly for a category in one-side view. For this special edition, it would lower the study value by categorization with a decision of one-side view for cross-disciplinary study. In addition, I considered that it would give an impression as increasing or removing specific categories in comparison with the previous issues. Therefore, I would like to note here that a reformation as not setting a categorization was carried out for a table of content.

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