

## PREFACE

The Electronics and Communication Sciences Unit (ECSU) of the Indian Statistical Institute is organizing the sixth International Conference on Advances in Pattern Recognition (ICAPR 2007) at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2007. Since the advent of knowledge based computing paradigm, pattern recognition has become an active area of research involving scientists and engineers from different disciplines of the physical and earth sciences. A number of conferences are being organized every year, which act as platforms to present and exchange ideas on different facets of pattern recognition. It is needless to mention that ICAPR has carved out a unique niche within this list of conferences on pattern recognition, particularly for its continued success in focusing upon application-driven research. We are confident that the programme of this ICAPR will be as exciting as the previous ones.

You may be aware of the overwhelming response that we received since the publication of the call for papers for ICAPR 2007 in February 2006. We received 123 papers from 32 different countries. Given the constraint on time like any other three-day conference, it was indeed difficult for us to select a very few out of these high-quality technical contributions. I am thankful to the learned members of the programme committee whose untiring effort helped me to ultimately select a total of 68 papers for oral presentation. The selected papers represent a number of important frontiers in pattern recognition ranging from Biometrics, Document Analysis, Image Registration & Transmission to traditional areas like Image Segmentation, Multimedia Object Retrieval, Shape Recognition and Speech & Signal Analysis. I am happy that we shall see an excellent balance of theory and application focused research in the programmes of ICAPR 2007. Another important aspect of the programme will be a series of invited talks by renowned exponents in the field of pattern recognition and related areas. We look forward to listening to plenary speakers Prof. K. V. Mardia, Prof. T. Tan and Prof. E. J. Delp. I am confident that it would also be a rewarding experience for all of us to interact with our invited speakers Prof. I. Bloch and Prof. V. Lakshmanan.

Publication of a proceedings of this standard requires tremendous infrastructural support. I am fortunate to have a very active advisory committee who extended their support whenever we required it. The organizing committee is working hard to make the event a grand success. The editorial workload was huge but Bibhas Chandra Dhara and Partha Pratim Mohanta, made it easy for me through their hard work and dedication.

I must acknowledge the staffs of the ECSU for their untiring support to conference secretariat. Particularly I am thankful to N. C. Deb, D. K. Gayen and S. K. Shaw for their support to technical work. The administrative responsibilities are being organized by S. K. Seal, S. Sarkar, D. Mitra, R. Chatterjee, D. Shaw, S. S. Das and supported by S. Deb.

I am also thankful to WebReview Team, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, ESAT/COSIC, to let me use their WebSubmission and WebReview Software. This made our job easier. Of course, the World Scientific editorial team lent a graceful touch to the printed format of this publication. I also acknowledge the help of Subhasis Kumar Pal for maintaining our webserver problem free.

We also thank our sponsors for their kind help and support.

I conclude with my heartfelt thanks to the contributors, for submitting their papers. and who now are ready to present it before the august audience of ICAPR. I am sure that this collection of papers and their presentation will motivate us to explore the further research and the advances made in pattern recognition. Thank you.

Pinakpani Pal  
Electronics and Communication Sciences Unit  
Indian Statistical Institute