Introduction

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the Multimedia Computing and Networking Conference (MMCN) 2007 at Electronic Imaging!

This year's MMCN is the 14th installment of the conference series. MMCN has traditionally served as an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to share their perspectives with others interested in the various aspects of multimedia systems and networks. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our publicity co-chairs Andreas Mauthe, Wei-Tsang Ooi, and Michael Zink and with the additional support of the ACM SIG Multimedia, the program committee had a good number of papers to choose from.

Each original submission was reviewed by at least three reviewers, conflicting review results were addressed in email discussions, and all the papers that received favorable reviews were intensely discussed during the program committee's day-long meeting on August 26, 2006, that committee members attended either in person, or by IP or POTS audio conference. The average quality of submission was very high, so that we were able to accept 18 full and seven short papers this year.

Putting together MMCN 2007 was a team effort. First of all, we would like to thank the authors for their submissions and for choosing MMCN to highlight their work. Our thanks also go to the program committee members and the external reviewers for their excellent job in evaluating the submissions. We also thank the following colleagues who contributed additional reviews: Sakire Arslan Ay, Jacob Chakareski, Beomjoo Seo, and Leslie S. Liu. We would further like to express our gratitude to the Computer Science department of the University of Massachusetts that hosted the PC meeting, and Michael Zink in particular for being gracious hosts in all aspects. We also want to thank SPIE, IS&T, and ACM SIG Multimedia for making MMCN possible again this year.

The program addresses multimedia systems issues under the topics of video coding, systems and measurements, user perception, resource management, streaming scalability, multimedia systems, and multimedia middleware. In addition to the presentation of the research papers, the program features a keynote speech by Ramesh Sarukkai of Yahoo! Inc., and a panel that will discuss *Getting in Touch with the Real World* — how multimedia systems interact with physical objects. We hope that you will find the program interesting and thought-provoking and that the conference will provide you with a valuable opportunity to share ideas with other researchers from institutions around the world!

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