

## **EDITORIAL**

### **HIGH QUALITY, RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL IT RESEARCH**

The second issue for 2006 of The International Journal on Computers, Systems, and Signals consists of two parts. The first part comprises two articles by experienced researchers while the second part presents papers that were initially delivered at the ISONEWorld 2005 doctoral symposium (a separate editorial follows on it). It is necessary to stress however that even if the last article in the second section was co-authored by a former doctoral student, working now as an assistant professor, its other authors and especially the name of H. Sol, are very well known to the IT research community. The nature of all four articles in the issue and the origins of their authors fully reflect the multidisciplinary orientation of this journal as well as its international coverage of research on computers, systems and signals.

The first article, *Multimethod Approaches to Understanding the Complexity of e-Government*, by J. Ramon Gil-Garcia and Theresa A. Pardo, presents very interesting insights aiming at enriching our understanding of multimethod research. The article is valuable also because it shows some of the work performed at the Center for Technology in Government at SUNY Albany, USA – a very well established research center with a significant role in this growing IT area. We fully agree with the authors that their paper provides an “insight into how the challenges to multi-method approaches to e-government research can be addressed through management strategies specifically designed to respond to the context within which the e-government research takes place and the methodologies adopted to ensure the fullest understanding of the phenomena” (see in this issue, Gil-Garcia and Pardo, 2006:13). Since multimethod research is especially suited to very complex problems for which a single approach will never be adequate, this paper shows a lot of useful ideas to borrow from when dealing with other complex IS problems.

The second paper by A. Tchangani of the University of Toulouse, France is titled *A Satisficing Game Theoretic Framework for Retrieving Relevant Objects from a Database*. It deals with an approach for improvement of the automation of the selection decision process. It is essential since human beings experience a significant difficulty when they have to deal with more than seven criteria or alternatives. Hence the applicability of the suggested method as it extends the existing understanding of how game theory can be applied for introducing a more flexible way to modulate the preferences of the decision makers about criteria or objects, that need to be extracted from a large existing database.

The last two papers will be covered in the following Guest-Editorial. Once again, we are grateful to the reviewers for their help in selecting and improving the research published in this issue. Now that the long process of reviewing and revising has been completed, we may say that the co-editors of IJCSS are proud of the quality of the papers presented in this issue.

Sincerely,

Don Petkov  
Eastern Connecticut State University  
Co-Editor in Chief, IJCSS  
[petkovd@easternct.edu](mailto:petkovd@easternct.edu)

Vladimir Bajic  
South African National Bioinformatics Institute  
Co-Editor in Chief, IJCSS  
[vlad@sanbi.ac.za](mailto:vlad@sanbi.ac.za)