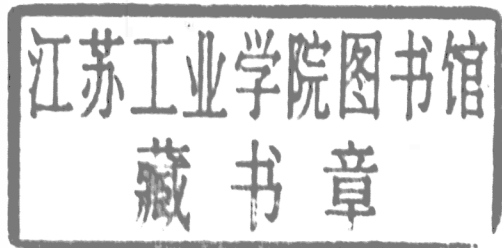


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on Neural Networks

IJCNN'02

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Welcome and Congratulations!

I want to welcome you to the 2002 IEEE World Congress on Computational Intelligence (WCCI), a forum that combines three key conferences: the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN), the Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC), and the IEEE International Conference on Fuzzy Systems (FUZZ-IEEE). Every four years we provide a common scientific forum for our three scientific communities to create new opportunities for cross-education and awareness of our related fields.

I also want to congratulate you, because you now have a *home*. On February 17, 2002, the IEEE Neural Network Council (NNC), which organized this forum in the past, became the IEEE Neural Network Society (NNS), the lead sponsoring entity of this year's congress. Individual members like you, representing the best of our technical and scientific communities, will be part of this new society. Probably, you are already familiar with some of our offerings, since you might have attended some of our past conferences (IJCNN, CEC, FUZZ-IEEE) or subscribed to one or more of our transactions (TNN, TEC, TFS). The IEEE NNS will further improve these educational products, while defining a professional identity that truly reflects your technical area of expertise.

As an attendee of WCCI 2002, you are now entitled to receive a free copy of our electronic newsletter, containing information about our society, calendar of events, review articles, and other items of interest. We would also like to extend to you an invitation to become a member of the Neural Network Society for 2003. Our yearly membership fee of \$10.00 for IEEE members or IEEE affiliates will allow you to take full advantage of our high-quality educational product offerings. Next year's membership benefits will include a newsletter, limited access to our electronic publications, and the opportunity of buying all three transactions (TNN, TEC, TFS) at a bundled price of \$50.00 (an \$18.00 discount). As a member, you may also have an active participation in the operations of the Neural Network Society, by running for an AdCom representative position, nominating candidates, and voting for the candidates. Membership renewal for 2003 will start around September 2002.

We look forward to your participation in our new society, and we are certain that the IEEE Neural Network Society will continue to grow and provide you with the best educational and professional services that you deserve.

Sincerely

Piero P. Bonissone
IEEE Neural Network Society
President 2002

A Message from the General Chairman

2002 IEEE World Congress on Computational Intelligence

Aloha! Welcome to the 2002 IEEE World Congress on Computational Intelligence (WCCI2002), a joint meeting of the 2002 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN2002), the 2002 Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC2002), and the 2002 IEEE International Conference on Fuzzy Systems (FUZZ-IEEE2002). These meetings are sponsored by the IEEE Neural Networks Society, the International Neural Networks Society, the IEEE, and the Evolutionary Programming Society. We have the opportunity once every four years to bring these three major conferences together in a single location and time, to foster technology transfer across all areas of computational intelligence and build long-lasting relationships with our colleagues. It's my pleasure to be the general chairman of this third World Congress on Computational Intelligence, held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel, in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, on the Island of Oahu, known as "the gathering place."

WCCI2002 features over 1150 papers from scientists, practitioners, students, engineers, and other colleagues from around the globe. In addition, we are fortunate to have a series of outstanding plenary and special lecturers to share their knowledge with us over the week, as well as a very strong tutorial program to open WCCI2002 on Sunday, May 12, 2002. Although the final statistics are not available as I write this message, I expect that we will have participants from every major continent, a truly international representation, and an indication of the success that neural, evolutionary, and fuzzy computation is enjoying.

I would like to thank the many people who have helped ensure the success of WCCI2002. The program chairs, Lee Giles, Xin Yao, and Toshi Fukuda, and their technical co-chairs deserve particular mention, as do Don Wunsch and Piero Bonissone for their instrumental efforts in handling the technical programs for IJCNN2002 and FUZZ-IEEE2002. Mohamed El-Sharkawi, the vice general chairman, offered valuable assistance, and Tom Cholewo, our web system chair, was simply invaluable. Thanks are also owed to the other conference organizers, Russ Eberhart (proceedings), Mary Lou Padgett (tutorials), Charlie Robinson (plenary and special lectures), Tony Kuh (local arrangements), Simon Lucas and Bernhard Sendoff (competitions), and Slawo Wesolkowski (student grants), as well as the organizers of the numerous special sessions and tracks, the authors, and the program committee members who reviewed the submissions.

Of course, last and most importantly, I thank you for coming to WCCI2002. I hope that you find the conference both memorable and enjoyable, and I trust that it will serve as a foundation for our efforts going forward, united under our new banner of the IEEE Neural Networks Society.

Sincerely,

David B. Fogel
General Chairman
Natural Selection, Inc.
La Jolla, CA, USA

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Welcome to IJCNN2002!

It is a pleasure to report that we have an excellent program this year. We had 536 submitted papers, with 451 accepted, for an acceptance rate of 84%. These numbers are in line with our goals before the meeting. In addition, we have an exciting program of Special Sessions, including: Neuroinformatics, Advances in ART Neural Network Theory and Applications, CNN Computing and Topographic Array Microprocessors, Artificial Neural Networks for Environmental Data Processing and Interpretation, Advances in Independent Component Analysis, Application of Computational Intelligence in Aerospace Industry, Video Compression via Radio, Control of Multiple Autonomous Agents, Context- and Experience-Dependence in the Dynamics of Perception and Decision, Intelligent Signal Processing for Wireless Communications, Neural Network Applications for Industrial Power Systems, and the panel, "Oh sure, my method is connectionist too. Who said it's not?"

Our contributed papers are no less compelling. We received sufficient high-quality submissions to construct sessions that have not typically been part of IJCNN, such as Bioinformatics, Graph Theory and Neural Networks, Differential and Computational Geometry in Neural Networks, Intrusion Detection/Computer Security, Power Systems, Chemical and Petroleum Industry Applications, Medical Applications, Military and Security Applications, Human-Computer Interaction, Agents, Games and Internet Applications, Auto Industry Applications, Consumer Electronics and Handheld Computing, Face Recognition, Bayesian and Probabilistic Methods, and Telecommunications. In addition, you will find sessions in the topics you have come to expect from IJCNN, and a stimulating poster session as well. We have been increasing the visibility of poster sessions in recent years, and this year all poster sessions are plenaries.

Furthermore, those who are interested in financial applications will be delighted that Conference on Computational Intelligence for Financial Engineering (CIFER) has joined forces with WCCI this year, and many of the CIFER papers were taken from IJCNN submissions.

So, get ready to learn, connect, and be fascinated. This may well be your favorite IJCNN to date. Work hard, and get plenty of stimulating ideas to present at IJCNN2003 next year, in July 2003, Portland Oregon.

Don Wunsch

Technical Program Co-Chairman, IJCNN2002

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