Welcome from the General Chairs
ICDAR 2011

On behalf of the ICDAR2011 organizing committee, we are honored and delighted to welcome you to Beijing for the Eleventh International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR 2011). As an ancient capital city of one of the world's oldest civilizations, Beijing is steeped in rich history and culture. At the same time, it is the vibrant center of education, science and technology of modern China. As such, Beijing is a perfect venue for this conference. We invite you to take advantage of the excellent technical programs while at the same time experience all that this great city has to offer.

As one of the flagship conferences of the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR), ICDAR continues to reflect the vitality and impact of the worldwide document analysis research community. This year the conference received 422 submissions – a close match to the record 430 received in ICDAR2009. Out of these about 21% were accepted as oral presentations and an additional 45% as poster presentations. The conference further offers a record number of five co-located workshops and seven tutorials, providing focused forums on an array of topics of increasing importance. Finally, for the first time, we are offering a Doctoral Consortium, thanks to the strong leadership of IAPR TC-10 (Graphics Recognition) and TC-11 (Reading Systems). This consortium will provide an opportunity for Ph.D. students, who represent the future of our field, to test their research ideas and receive valuable feedback and career guidance from the community at large.

We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Prof. Sargur Srihari, who received this year's IAPR/ICDAR Outstanding Achievement Award for his outstanding and continued contributions to research and education in handwriting recognition and document analysis, and services to the community; and to D. Masakazu Iwamura who received the IAPR/ICDAR Young Investigator Award for his outstanding contributions to camera-based document analysis and document image retrieval. Along with the past winners, these are the people who make our community thrive, and we owe them all a deep debt of gratitude.

A large conference like this cannot happen without the dedicated effort from the many volunteer organizers. We would like to thank the three Program Chairs, Prof. Chew Lim Tan, Prof. Daniel Lopresti and Prof. Thomas Breuel, for their diligent work and impeccable judgment in putting together a top notch technical program, and all the committee chairs for contributing to an exceptionally well-rounded conference program. We would like to thank our generous sponsors for their continued support of our research community. Special thanks go to the Executive Chairs, Prof. Cheng-Lin Liu and Prof. Changsong Liu, who have been the true driving force behind every step of the preparations leading to the conference. Finally, we would like to express our heart felt thanks to the team of local organizers at the Center for Intelligent Image and Document Information Processing (CIDIP) of Tsinghua University, the Institute of Automation of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CASIA), the Chinese Association of Automation(CAA) and the Center for International Scientific Exchanges of CAS, who devoted countless hours and effort to ensure that no important detail is left unattended to.

We wish you all an exciting and fruitful stay in Beijing!

Xiaoqing Ding
Hiromichi Fujisawa
Jianying Hu
General Chairs, ICDAR2011

Welcome from the Program Chairs

ICDAR 2011

The technical program is, of course, the foundation of any conference, and ICDAR 2011 is no exception. As the Program Chairs, we take primary responsibility for deciding the program, but its content and quality derive from the vision and hard work of a large number of people. We begin by thanking the local organizing committee, the Executive Chairs, and the General Chairs for providing such an attractive venue for ICDAR 2011. Beijing is the perfect city for ICDAR, and we have no doubt that this in part explains the large number of submissions we received for the conference. We also wish to thank the authors who chose ICDAR as the event where they want to present the results of their research. There are other opportunities for publishing work in our field, but none, we believe, matches ICDAR for its breadth, depth, impact, and quality. Finally, the Program Committee and the Reviewers deserve tremendous thanks for the critical job they did in helping to select the papers for this year's conference. Their names are listed on the pages that follow as a small measure of our deep appreciation.

As the General Chairs have noted, we received a total of 422 submissions to the conference. We were joined by 79 distinguished members of the international research community from 21 different countries who served as the Program Committee. Reviews were assigned to Program Committee members through a bidding process based on technical expertise and interests, with each member receiving an average of 15 papers. Between the Program Committee and outside Reviewers, a total of 1,269 reviews were collected, with the vast majority of submissions receiving three reviews. These formed the basis for our acceptance decisions.

The final program is organized into three parallel tracks incorporating 18 oral sessions, three poster sessions, three keynote talks, one panel session, and the results of the ICDAR competitions spread over three days. A total of 33 different countries are represented in the technical program. China and the United States are nearly tied for the largest number of authors, followed by Japan, France, India and Germany.

While in one sense our job as the Program Chairs is done after the papers have been selected and the program set, we eagerly look forward to seeing all of the members of our community in Beijing, and we hope that you find ICDAR 2011 an enjoyable and valuable experience.

Chew Lim Tan
Daniel Lopresti
Thomas Breuel
Program Chairs, ICDAR 2011