IEEE Transactions on Affective Computing–Entering the 10th Year of Publication

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IT is a special honor and privilege for me being appointed to serve the *IEEE Transactions on Affective Computing* (*TAC*) as the editor-in-chief starting January 2019, and I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the *TAC* steering board for their trust and support.

Under the strong leadership by the past EICs, Jonathan Gratch and Björn Schuller, *TAC* has developed in a most impressive manner and achieved high international visibility among professionals working in the area of Affective Computing. The number of submissions has significantly increased (doubled since 2012) while maintaining a top quality of papers. The growing influence and impact of *TAC* is also reflected by official journal citation metrics. Most notably, its impact factor has risen from 3.149 to 4.585 within only a year according to the latest Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Report (JCR). I am most grateful to Jonathan Gratch as the founding EIC and Björn Schuller as his successor for their outstanding commitment and brilliant work. Following talents like them makes the job of a new journal editor-in-chief a respectful challenge.

A particular opportunity of *TAC* is to increase its impact by reaching out for neighboring communities that may benefit from interactions with researchers from Affective Computing. I am thinking especially of two areas: Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The area of Human-Computer Interaction has seen a trend to enhance the user's experience by incorporating affect as a key element into a user interface. Indeed, this area offers exciting application scenarios to explore theories and technologies from our field. Vice versa, work on human-machine communication may greatly benefit from advances in the recognition, modeling and synthesis of emotions. The area of Artificial Intelligence has witnessed a transformative evolution due to novel technologies to acquire, process, and store mass data. Recent developments in machine learning provide exciting prospects for research on Affective Computing. At the same time, they emphasize the need for Affective Computing systems that do not only show a high amount of robustness, but are also able to explain their results. This is in particular true for applications at the cross-border of Affective Computing and Medical Informatics. *TAC* may play a fundamental rule in building bridges between the areas of Affective Computing, Human-Computer Interaction and Artificial Intelligence.

Top tier conferences have introduced special tracks on emotional and social signals. These initiatives offer great opportunities to *TAC* since they will help promote Affective Computing research in neighboring disciplines and thus further increase the impact of the journal. Building partnerships with relevant conferences are the key in increasing the visibility of work published in the journal and will ensure a continuous influx of excellent papers. *TAC* has published a number of "Best of X" Special Issues with top-quality papers that has increased the attractiveness of the journal and strengthened relationships to partner conferences in particular ACII. Furthermore, invited extended abstracts of Most Influential *TAC* papers have been included in the ACII program. This initiative has increased the visibility of *TAC* papers and given authors the chance to present their work in person to the scientific community. In collaboration with the editorial board members, I aim to extend the successful partnership to further top tier conferences that feature Affective Computing research in order to make the respective communities aware of the work published in the *TAC* journal.

I am looking forward very much to entering the 10th year of publication of *TAC*, and I invite you to share any suggestions and ideas to continue *TAC*'s successful run and make it further grow as the flagship journal of Affective Computing Research.

With best wishes for 2019

Elisabeth André
Editor-in-Chief