Editorial

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Biographical notes: Aleksander Zgrzywa received the MSc and PhD in Computer Science from Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland in 1970 and 1976, respectively. He is Professor of Computer Science, Head of the Information Systems Department. His current research include: efficiency of the network information systems, application of the AI to information systems e.g.: knowledge acquisition in an agent system, negotiating multi-agent systems using Petri nets, Bayesian network approach to information retrieval, applying artificial neuron network for construction of user profile, and using the queuing network to evaluate of the network information systems' efficiency. He is the member of Polish Information Processing Society, IEEE Computer Society and Wroclaw Scientific Society.

Janusz Sobecki received the MSc and PhD in Computer Science from Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland in 1986 and 1994, respectively. He is an Assistant Professor in Institute of Applied Informatics (IAI) at Wroclaw University of Technology. His research interests include information retrieval, multimedia information systems, system usability and recommender systems. He is on the editorial board of New Generation Computing (NGC). He was PC co-chair of two symposiums (*KES AMSTA 2007 and 2008*) and three international workshops and was an editor and co-editor of three journal special issues, JUCS in 2005, IJCSA 2006, NGC in 2008. He is a member of American Association of Machinery.

The 5th International Conference on *Multimedia and Network Information Systems – MISSI'06* was held in Wrocław, Poland during 21–22 September, 2006 and was organised by Department of Information Systems at Institute of Applied Informatics of Wrocław University of Technology. MISSI'06 conference was held under the auspices of the Polish Information Processing Society and Wrocław Scientific Society.

The first National Conference: *Multimedia and Network Information Systems* was held in Wrocław in September 1998. During the 4th edition of the conference for the first time two international workshops were organised: *Intelligent Media Technology for Communicative Intelligence – IMTfCI Workshop* (Chairman: Professor Toyoaki Nishida from Kyoto University and Dr. Elżbieta Kukla from our Department) and *Mutimedia Information Systems Technology – MMISTech Workshop* (Chairman: Professor Klaus Meyer-Wegener from Friedrich-Alekxander-Universitaet Erlangen-Nurnberg and already mentioned Dr Elżbieta Kukla). The conference proceedings consisted of two volumes: the first in Polish language and the second in English.

The 5th edition of the conference was held as a fully international with English language for contributions and conference proceedings. The proceedings contained two keynote addresses and four chapters with 31 papers.

Authors of selected papers were asked to submit extended versions of their papers. As a consequence we received eight submissions, out of which six papers were accepted for publication. The accepted papers cover the broad spectrum of multimedia systems: language processing, speech processing, 3D image processing, video formats for video databases, web efficiency and integration of different information systems.

This special issue contains the following papers: Towards semi-automatic extraction of lexical semantics relations for Polish by Maciej Piasecki; Improving signal quality of a speech codec using hybrid perceptual-parametric algorithm by Maciej Kulesza, Grzegorz Szwoch and Andrzej Czyżewski; Computing time and quality of 3D rendering using programming code optimisation techniques by Kazimierz Choros and Krzysztof Kaczynski; Format independence of audio and video in multimedia database systems by Maciej Suchomski and Klaus Meyer-Wegener, Usefulness of logical buffer data for www objects prefetching by Andrzej Sieminski and Integration of cadastral and financial-accounting systems by Dariusz Krol, Bogdan Trawinski and Wojciech Zawila.

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