
Foreword

Gary Ka-Wai Wong

Department of Mathematics and Information Technology,
Faculty of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences,
The Hong Kong Institute of Education,
10 Lo Ping Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong
Email: wongkawai@ied.edu.hk

Biographical notes: Gary Ka-Wai Wong is currently a Lecturer of the Department of Mathematics and Information Technology in the Hong Kong Institute of Education. He received his BS in Computer Science and Mathematics (double major), Magna Cum Laude from Brigham Young University Hawaii in 2006. He then received his MPhil in Electronic and Computer Engineering from The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in 2009. He received his PhD in Computer Science from City University of Hong Kong in 2012. His research interests include wireless communication and networks, mobile social networking, energy efficiency in wireless communications, mobile learning in mathematics and ICT educations, optimisation and mathematical programming, computer science and engineering education, and higher education. He was selected to be included in *Marquis Who's Who in the World* in 2010. He is currently a member of Phi Kappa Phi, ACM, IEEE, and HKCS.

The development of information technology has rapidly grown over the past few years in both hardware and software products. Cyberspace is filled with various applications and services, for example, social networking and cloud computing. The penetration rate is quite high throughout different ages in our society spanning with different sectors such as business, education, and government. In order to provide a safeguard for the usage of the cyberspace resources, legal issues and challenges related to the information technology and intellectual property must be resolved in order to have a harmony cyber environment. In recent years, there are many challenging legal problems to handle in the cyberspace, such as the internet regulations, digital ownership, copyright law and infringement, data privacy, cyber-speech, patent, data protection and security, and cybercrime. Criminal and other issues on the internet can be difficult to combat because it is challenging to define the jurisdictions where the issues belong. This virtual environment is actually created by different parties from different countries. Thus, these are all difficult problems to handle and investigate. It requires the collaboration from the industry, academic, and legal departments together to come up with better solutions to resolve the issues. It also requires a better definition from international treaties to set a consistent law to guide the business and other users of the information technology to protect their own intellectual property.

In this special issue, we have selected papers both from the technical and legal point of views on information technology and intellectual property. These papers serve as some of the cutting edge researches to handle data security and cybercrime issues. Indeed, there are still more future works to do in this area of research. It is my honour and pleasure to present these papers with you in this special issue to stimulate our idea and motivation to

carry out further works in this exciting and challenging area. I would recommend you to study these works in detail in order to consider developing or applying into your own research area to form an interdisciplinary research culture and community. In addition, I would like to thank the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Srikanta Patnaik, for his support and expertise in this area. Appreciation should also go to the dedicated reviewers of the submitted manuscripts. Last but not least, I appreciate the authors and their timely contributions in this special issue.