Editorial

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Biographical notes: Somnuk Phon-Amnuaisuk is an Associate Professor at the School of Computing and Informatics, Universiti Teknologi Brunei. He received his PhD in Artificial Intelligence from the Edinburgh University in 2002. He holds a Master's degree in Management from the Sasin Graduate School, Chulalongkorn University, and a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the King Mongkut Institute of Technology, Thailand. His research activities in the past 20 years have been in the following areas: artificial intelligence, creative computing, machine learning and data mining, emergent computing, and pervasive computing. He has published more than 140 publications in refereed scientific journals and conferences.

Jonathan H. Chan is an Associate Professor at the School of Information Technology, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Thailand. He obtained his Bachelor, Master and PhD degrees from the University of Toronto. He is a member of the editorial board of Neural Networks (Elsevier), Proceedings in Adaptation, Learning and Optimisation (Springer), Heliyon (Elsevier), *International Journal of Machine Intelligence and Sensory Signal Processing* (Inderscience), and a reviewer for a number of refereed international journals including *Information Science, Neural Computation and Applications, BMC Bioinformatics, International Journal of Data Mining and Bioinformatics, and Memetic Computing*. He has also served on the program, technical and/or advisory committees for numerous major international conferences. His research interests include intelligent systems, biomedical informatics, bioinformatics and systems biology, and data science.

Lakhmi C. Jain is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia. He founded the KES international to provide the professional community a platform for publications, knowledge exchange, cooperation and teaming. Involving around 5,000 researchers from universities and companies world-wide, KES facilitates international cooperation and generates synergy in teaching and research. KES regularly provides networking opportunities for professional community through one of the largest conferences of its kind in the area of KES (http://www.kesinternational.org). His interests focus on the artificial intelligence paradigms and their applications in complex systems, security, e-education, e-healthcare, unmanned air vehicles and intelligent agents.

This special issue on: 'Nature-inspired computing and its applications' presents a collection of five selected papers which have been carefully reviewed. They present the most current research advances in various areas such as search efficiency improvement through diversity analysis; applications of evolutionary strategies in engineering applications, image processing applications and smart homes.

The guest editorial team would like to thank the Editor-in-Chief Professor Valentina E. Balas and Professor Anca Ralescu, for having been given the opportunity to edit this special issue. The team would also like to thank the Inderscience team, reviewers and all the authors for their contributions.