
MESSAGE

IEICE Transactions on Communications: Editor's Message

The month of June marks the beginning of IEICE's fiscal year, when the Editorial Board of IEICE Transactions will start with new succeeding members as some board members have completed their terms of office. With that, it is an honor and privilege to announce that I will now serve as the Editor-in-Chief (EiC), for two years, of the IEICE Transactions on Communications.

The surge of Covid-19 pandemic cases since early 2020, has dramatically changed the usual working environment and almost every setup has become virtual. With this, the demand for innovation in communications technology is steadily growing.

Having a 105-year history since its establishment in 1917, the IEICE contributes to the advancement of information and communication technology, and the IEICE Transactions on Communications has been serving as one of the major platforms for the dissemination of technologies developed by national and international researchers and engineers since it was first issued in 1991. However, since other journals are also increasingly taking the role of new and innovative technology dissemination, the IEICE Transaction needs to increase its competitiveness. To achieve this, we will continuously work to improve our services, such as shortening the review period, introducing advanced publications, establishing position paper categories, and accepting papers submitted by non-IEICE members. In addition, to maintain reasonable review and decision-making, which is most important for authors, review criteria are being checked by sharing case studies with all members of the editorial committee at every quarter meeting. As a result of these steady efforts, the number of submissions last year increased more than that in the previous year. Accessibility to the published articles is another key issue for academic journals, in which the former EiC, Prof. Fukawa has devoted his efforts to tackle this issue. From now on, it is a privilege to take up this baton and would like to push forward with the launch of this new plan. I will do my best to continuously increase the value of the transaction with my fellow Editors, Prof. Yoshiaki Kitaguchi, Prof. Shinsuke Ibi, Prof. Katsuyoshi Iida, and all the committee members.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Prof. Kazuhiko Fukawa, the former EiC, Prof. Kazuhiko Kinoshita, the former Editor, and the former associate editors, for their great effort to enhance the competitiveness of this transaction. Last, but not least, I would like to give my special thanks to the authors, readers, and reviewers for their significant contributions in submitting, reviewing, and citing their outstanding works, which are of the utmost importance to the value of this transaction.

Keizo Cho, Editor-in-Chief

Keizo Cho (*Fellow*) a senior member of the IEEE, received a B.E. degree in electrical and computer engineering from Yokohama National University in 1986, an M.E. degree in information physics engineering in 1988, and a D.E. degree in electrical and electronics engineering from Tokyo Institute of Technology in 2001. He joined NTT Radio Communication Systems Laboratories, Japan, in 1988, and have been engaged in the research and development of antennas for mobile communication systems. He was a visiting researcher at the Communication Research Laboratory, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada from 1994 to 1995 and was a Group Leader of Antenna Research Group of NTT Network Innovation Laboratories from 2002 to 2003, and a Group Leader of the RF Technology Research Group of Research Laboratories, NTT DOCOMO, INC., Japan from 2003 to 2012. Currently, since April 2012, he serves as a Professor in the Department of Information and Communication Systems Engineering at Chiba Institute of Technology, Chiba, Japan. He has served as Associate Editor and Editor of the IEICE Transactions on Communications for 10 years and has received the Young Researcher's Award and the Best Paper Award from the IEICE in 1995 and 2009, respectively.

