

## *Preface*

The annual international symposium on Knowledge and Systems Sciences aims to promote the exchange and interaction of knowledge across disciplines and borders to explore the new territories and new frontiers. Over the past 12-years, continuous endeavors to strictly define knowledge science have led to a very tolerant, broad-based and open-minded approach to the discipline. Knowledge science and systems science can complement and benefit each other methodologically. The first International Symposium on Knowledge and Systems Sciences (KSS2000), initiated and organized by Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, was held in September of 2000. Since then KSS2001 (Dalian, China), KSS2002 (Shanghai, China), KSS2003 (Guangzhou, China), KSS2004 (JAIST, Japan), KSS2005 (Vienna, Austria), KSS2006 (Beijing, China), KSS2007 (JAIST, Japan), KSS2008 (Guangzhou, China), KSS2009 (Hong Kong, China), KSS2010 (Xi'an, China) and KSS2011 (Hull, UK) have been held successfully, with many scientists and researchers from different countries contributing. Within the past 12 years, people interested in Knowledge and Systems Sciences have become a community, and an international academic society has existed for 10 years. This year, the 13th KSS Symposium will be held November 19th-20th, 2012, at the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Ishikawa, Japan.

The main objective of the Symposium is to provide a forum for exchanges of research results, ideas for and experience of application among researchers and practitioners interested in Knowledge and Systems Sciences. The topics of KSS 2012 include, but are not limited to, the following: Creation of agent-based social systems sciences; Cross-cultural learning on systems thinking and knowledge management; Complex system modeling and complexity; Decision support systems; Knowledge creation, creativity support, awareness support, etc.; Knowledge discovery, data mining, text mining, recommendation system and relevant Web intelligence tools; Knowledge systems engineering and knowledge management; Meta-synthesis and advanced modeling; Problem structuring methods and system methodologies; Social dynamic network modeling.

Shouyang Wang, Symposium Co-Chair

Yoshiteru Nakamori, Symposium Co-Chair

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