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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Quality of Communication Services Improving Quality of Life

Owing to the enhancement of network infrastructure and terminal performance, users can enjoy audio-visual communications and high definition video contents through communication networks more easily. Under these circumstances, it is becoming more important to evaluate service performance from the viewpoint of user satisfaction, so that Quality of Experience (QoE) is used as a degree of acceptability for an application or a service. Moreover, a user can utilize the communication services anytime and anywhere in his/her real life because of mobile technologies. Therefore the communication services tend to penetrate and influence our real-world life considerably. Consequently, it is expected that development of communication methods and services based on QoE has a potential of changing quality of life as well.

This Special Section, thus, aims to present the latest trend of research in quality of communication services improving quality of life. We had received 45 submissions. After careful consideration and intensive review and discussion by the editorial committee, 9 papers and 2 letters have been selected for publication. Two invited papers are also solicited to provide the states-of-art perspectives for quality of communication services.

Finally, as the guest editor-in-chief, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the authors for their contribution and to all the reviewers and all the members of the editorial committee for their great efforts to make this Special Section a successful one.

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Tatsuya Yamazaki (NICT), Guest Editor-in-Chief

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**Tatsuya Yamazaki** (*Senior Member*) received the B.E., M.E. and Ph.D. degrees in information engineering from Niigata University, Niigata, Japan, in 1987, 1989 and 2002, respectively. He joined Communications Research Laboratory (at present, National Institute of Information and Communications Technology) as a researcher in 1989. Since 2011, he has been a research manager of Universal Communication Research Institute, NICT. From 1992 to 1993 and 1995 to 1996 he was a visiting researcher at the National Optics Institute, Canada. From 1997 to 2001 he was a senior researcher at ATR Adaptive Communications Research Laboratories. He has been the Chair of the IEICE Technical Committee on Communication Quality since 2011. His areas of interest include adaptive QoS management, ubiquitous computing research, statistical image processing and pattern recognition. He is a member of IEEE, IPSJ, ITE and the Japanese Academy of Facial Studies.

