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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Knowledge Discovery, Data Mining and Creativity Support System

Welcome to the Special Section on Knowledge, Information and Creativity Support System, the IEICE Transactions on Information and Systems. While Information and Communication Technology (ICT) makes our living style more comfortable, there is a trend to apply ICT support higher or deeper process, including creativity works. At present, research and development in this field is still infant, slowly developed and needs more stimuli. It is necessary to study to find approaches to manage or process such large-scale data, information and knowledge, efficiently and effectively in order to obtain novel knowledge and then to support creativity. Moreover, so far the creativity point of view has not yet been stressed in terms of computer science and/or information technology. This area of interest will inevitably become one of the most important research issues in the near future. The topics in this special issue include knowledge acquisition, knowledge discovery and data mining, knowledge representation and knowledge exploitation.

After the call for papers for this Special Section, we received 14 submissions from several countries. The Editorial Committee worked out with difficulty to carefully reviewing and evaluating the submitted papers. After a thorough reviewing process, 9 papers are accepted for publication in this Special Section. Four papers involve medical knowledge management, two papers explore knowledge discovery and data mining, two papers are categorized as knowledge applications and intelligent user interfaces, and one paper is related to syntactic analysis.

The Guest Editors would like to express their sincere appreciation to all the authors for their efforts in preparing and submitting their excellent manuscripts, and to the reviewers for their professional and voluntary work. We also appreciate the editorial board of the IEICE Transactions on Information and Systems. Without their support, this special issue would not have been possible. Finally, we would like to express our appreciation for the large efforts of the Editorial Committee Members. Their names and affiliations are listed below.

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Thanaruk Theeramunkong, Guest Editor-in-Chief

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**Thanaruk Theeramunkong** (*Member*) received his doctoral degree in Computer Science from Tokyo Institute of Technology. His current research interests include data mining, machine learning, natural language processing, and information retrieval.

