

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the September issue of our 2025 SMCS eNewsletter. For those in the Northern hemisphere, I hope you had a lovely summer and are now recharged for a new Fall semester. To those in the Southern hemisphere, enjoy your spring and remember: summer is just around the corner! And we are just a few weeks away from SMC 2025 in Austria, where a record number of attendees are expected to be at the conference in person. I look forward to seeing many of you in Vienna from October 5-8!

In this Issue, Associate Editor Wen Qi has overseen the Feature Article titled “Rise of the Robochemist” where Jihong Zhu and co-authors describe a new paradigm where autonomous systems assist in designing, executing, and analyzing chemistry experiments. Next, in the “Academic Corner” column, Associate Editor Hang Su interviews Dr. Marta Lagomarsino, Dr. Giuseppe D’Aniello, and Dr. Edmar Gurjão, three active SMC members. In the “Student Corner” column, Associate Editors Anderson Avila and Chun Sing Lai interview Vincenzo Barbuto from University of Calabria and Giannis Petousakis from University of Manchester. In the “Industry Corner” column, Associate Editor Debdeep Paul interviews Dr. Qingsong Wen, Head of AI & Chief Scientist at Squirrel AI Learning. In this interview, Dr. Wen provides insights on current challenges and opportunities in AI agents and LLMs, along with great advice for young researchers wishing to enter these fields. We hope you enjoy these interviews!

For News items, we welcome a new SMCS Student Branch Chapter at the BNM Institute of Technology in the Bangalore section, we provide reports on Distinguished Lectures by Dr. Hou and Dr. Dong, an announcement of the new SMCS Technical Committee on Fully Actuated System Approach, a report from the IEEE SMC Italy Chapter on the SMC Italy Day and the Award for Excellence of Early Career Researchers, as well as reports on the recent 2025 IEEE Brain Discovery and Neurotechnology Workshop and the 2025 Telepresence Conference. Lastly, we present several Call for Papers and Call for Participation to our society’s leading conferences and symposiums, as well as calls for submissions to Special Issues for the IEEE SMC Magazine and the IEEE SMC Transactions on Human Machine Systems.

I hope you enjoy this September issue of the SMCS eNewsletter. If you have any suggestions for improvements or material you’d like to see shared with the SMC membership, please let us know. I look forward to sharing your accomplishments and exciting news to the SMC membership this year.

Lastly, we are also always on the lookout for new volunteers, especially student members, to help us prepare new and engaging material for the newsletter. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out!

See you in Vienna in a few weeks at SMC 2025!



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