

## Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the first issue of our 2026 SMCS eNewsletter. I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and that 2026 and the Year of the Fire Horse are off to great starts!

In this Issue, Hung Nguyen, Nguyen Thach, and Vladik Kreinovich present a Feature Article titled *Applications to Economics and Finance: Challenges, Results, and How Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC) Research Can Help*, where they not only describe ways in which “S,” “M,” and “C” techniques can be applied to econometrics, but how techniques developed in econometrics could be used to help shape future AI-based engineering systems.

Next, in the “Academic Corner” column, Associate Editor Hang Su interviews Prof. Ying (Gina) Tang and Prof. Ivan Volosyak, two very active SMC members who are serving as general co-chairs of the SMC 2026 Conference and the BMI 2026 Workshop, respectively. In the “Student Corner” column, Associate Editor Anderson Avila interviews two PhD students very active within SMCS: Nasim Soltani and Heitor Guimarães. In the “Industry Corner” column, Associate Editor Debdeep Paul interviews Dr. Marc-Antoine Moynereau, the CEO of Kaptics, who is designing and deploying integrated physiological sensing systems for virtual and augmented reality devices. In this interview, Dr. Moynereau gives us a view of the emerging trends in integrating brain-computer interfaces with extended reality, along with great advice for young researchers wishing to enter the field. We hope you enjoy these interviews!

For News items, we welcome several new SMCS Student Chapters; we provide reports on several Distinguished Lectures, on the 2025 IEEE Tunisian Student and Young Professional Congress, and the 2026 PhD Winter School on Autonomous Systems; we highlight the 2026 Call for IEEE SMC Collaboration and Engagement Proposals; and welcome the new 2026 New Technical Committee and Subcommittee members, as well as a new TC on Trustworthy and Controllable Intelligent Systems. Finally, we present several Call for Papers and Call for Participation to our society’s leading conferences, workshops, symposia, and summer schools, as well as Special Issue announcements for the IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems and the IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems.

I hope you enjoy this March 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.



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