

LETTER FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

We welcome you to the 24th IEEE International Conference on Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (MEMS 2011) in Cancún, Quintana Roo, Mexico.


The IEEE MEMS Conference series started in 1987 as the Micro Robots and Teleoperators Workshop. It was subsequently renamed to the IEEE Micro Electro Mechanical Systems Workshop and, since 1999, it has been known as the IEEE International Conference on Micro Electro Mechanical Systems. Over the last two decades, the MEMS community has experienced immense growth in various areas of device science and technology. New activities have evolved into major research fields such as Bio-MEMS, Optical MEMS, RF MEMS, Power MEMS, NEMS and many other interesting fields. The enthusiasm of this community is evident from the creativity in relentlessly expanding the range of MEMS applications.

It is our great pleasure to announce that this year we received 886 abstracts which is a record setting number of abstracts. A total of 332 papers were judiciously selected by the 30-member Technical Program Committee (TPC). The presentations are arranged in a single-session format that includes 3 invited lectures, 46 oral presentations and 286 posters. The poster sessions have been a highlight of this Conference and follow the successful poster/oral presentation format pioneered in 2004. Poster presentations are divided into four sessions to facilitate interaction with the authors, who will have their posters on display throughout the Conference. All Conference papers, oral and poster, are included in this Technical Digest.

This year, we are introducing several innovations and updates: For the first time while taking place in the Americas, the IEEE MEMS Conference is held outside the United States. Consequently, a special poster session is dedicated to Latin America and the Caribbean, giving regional researchers an opportunity to highlight their growing MEMS activities. A post-Conference tour on Thursday afternoon to Tulum will give our Conference attendees an opportunity to explore one of the best-preserved coastal Mayan sites, located on cliffs above a spectacular beach. Also for the first time, our Technical Digest is entirely digital. Besides the seemingly inevitable trend towards e-books, this change has provided us with several advantages, including a later abstract submission deadline, downloadable Technical Digest that is available several days before the Conference, and a modest contribution towards making our Conference “greener”. For those who still miss the heavy feel of physical proceedings, printed copies were also available for purchase prior to the Conference.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the authors of the submitted abstracts. Their high quality work serves as the foundation for the success of this Conference. The papers selected by the TPC were made up with equal representation from three regional divisions: Americas, Europe & Africa, and Asia & Oceania. Five sub-committees were formed in order to facilitate a careful review of the large number of submitted abstracts. The committee recommendations on the acceptance or declination of papers were taken as binding. We are grateful to all TPC members who volunteered their valuable time, including participation in an intense two-day on-site meeting in Seattle, Washington, for paper selection. We are also indebted to the International Steering Committee and the Advisory Co-Chairs, Yuji Suzuki and Man Wong, for generously sharing their experience. We gratefully acknowledge the industrial support groups and exhibitors for their involvement in this Conference, and are very thankful to the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society for their continued support of this meeting. The dedicated effort of Ms. Katharine Cline and her team at PMMI in managing this Conference is greatly appreciated.

In closing, we hope you enjoy the Conference presentations, posters, exhibition booths and events this week in Cancún!


Karl F. Böhringer
General Co-Chair


Liwei Lin
General Co-Chair