

Message from the conference chairs

It is our great pleasure to welcome all participants to MVA2011, the 12th IAPR Conference on Machine Vision Applications, which is co-sponsored by the MVA Organization, IAPR TC-8, and Nara Institute of Science and Technology (NAIST).

We hold this workshop in Nara, which was once a Japanese capital in ancient times and is now in the heart of a modern science district called Kansai Science City. This area preserves the ancient traditions and cultures of Japan until today and the 1300th anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital was celebrated last year. The city is currently functioning as an international center of science, technology, and culture. Both government and private firms continue to establish R&D centers and educational institutes, most of which are being engaged in research on machine vision technologies.

This time, we have received 208 submissions from 29 countries over the world. From these figures, we gladly know that Machine Vision has been globally appreciated and studied vigorously. Among these, 36 and 108 papers have been selected through rigorous peer review for oral and poster presentations, respectively. We are thankful to the members of the Program Committee for their enormous efforts in the reviewing process. After the notification of acceptance, however, catastrophic earthquake and tsunami struck Tohoku district of Japan on March 11th, which was followed by the accident of nuclear power plants in Fukushima. Here, we strongly hope that the Machine Vision technology will be of help to revitalize people/area suffering from such unprecedented tragedy. It is our pleasure that, despite of this difficult disaster period, we could prepare an enjoyable technical program consisting of excellent contributions, thanks to the authors' understanding.

At the MVA2011, three new awards, Best Paper Award, Best Application Paper Award and Best Poster Award, have been established, besides the traditional "Most Influential Paper over the Decade Award". This evolution should stimulate exciting discussion in both oral and poster sessions. In addition, three distinguished researchers will deliver inspiring lectures as IAPR invited talks. We would like to express our great appreciation to Professor Nassir Navab, Professor James M. Rehg, and Professor Keiji Saneyoshi, for accepting our invitation in spite of their busy schedules.

Organizing a workshop was really an interesting and challenging work. We would like to express our gratitude to all of the MVA Organizing Committee members for their wonderful jobs to make the MVA2011 successful. Lastly, we express our hearty gratitude to all participants, and we hope that all participants will enjoy the traditional Japanese cultures and encounter advanced machine vision technologies throughout the conference.



Keiji Yamada (NEC & NAIST)
General Chair, MVA2011



Yasuyo Kita (AIST)
Program Chair, MVA2011