The IEICE Transactions on Information and Systems announces that it will publish a special section entitled "Special Section on Intelligent Information and Communication Technology and its Applications to Creative Activity Support" in April 2020.

Recently, many and complex issues and problems that threaten the sustainability of our society have been becoming tangible. Most of these issues and problems would be able to be solved by cooperation and collaboration among researchers and civilians. Many concepts, including Open Innovation, Open Science, Collective Intelligence, Crowd Sourcing, Open Data, Civic Tech, Hackathon, Senior Community, etc., which can ensure the value of these cooperation and collaborations have been also established in these days. In the real field, the successful cases have been increased very much. In particular, because of the huge advance of the AI technologies, there is the huge impact in the real collaboration among researchers and civilians, where researchers should dive into the real field, find the real problems and issues, and then should solve it with cooperation by civilians. In order to contribute to sustainability of our society, it is required to gather expertized knowledge from researchers and engineers in variety of the different fields, and therefore interdisciplinary and open activities are strongly required. Such technologies for facilitating communications among different fields, and solving the social issues would gather much attention from members in IEICE. Further, the interaction among researchers and people itself would become the research target in the field of network and culture analysis. Thus, we would like to propose the special issue “Intelligent Information and Communication Technology and its Applications to Creative Activity Support”. Because of such reasons, a special section is being planned (scheduled to appear in the April 2020 issue) to further promote research and development of future communications quality.

1. Scope
This special section aims at timely dissemination of research in these areas. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Large-scale Data Processing and Machine Learning
- Knowledge Science, Knowledge Engineering and Knowledge Representation
- Knowledge Management / Management of Technology Support Systems
- Service / Innovation Management Support Systems
- Robotics, Mechatronics, and Haptics
- Sensor Networks, Intelligent Wireless Systems
- Image Processing, Computer Graphics and Virtual Reality
- Agent Simulation
- Intelligent Control of Infrastructure
- Data Visualization and Interface Design
- Creativity Support Systems and Decision Support System
- Human Language Technology and Natural Language Processing
- Ontology and Semantic Web
- Evaluation of Intelligent ICT Systems
- Artificial Intelligence and Computational Intelligence

2. Submission Instructions
- A manuscript should be prepared according to the guideline given in “The Information for Authors” (http://www.ieice.org/eng/shiori/mokuji_iss.html). We encourage the authors to use the IEICE Style File (http://www.ieice.org/ftp/index-e.html). The preferred length of the manuscript is 8 pages for a PAPER and 2 pages for a LETTER with the format determined by the IEICE Style File.
- Submit the manuscript through the IEICE Web site (https://review.ieice.org/regist/regist_baseinfo_e.aspx). Choose “[Special-II] Intelligent Information and Communication Technology and its Applications to Creative Activity Support” in the menu of “Journal/Section” in the submission page. Do not choose “[Regular-ED] Information and Systems” or other special sections.
- Authors must agree to the “Copyright Transfer and Page Charge Agreement” via electronic submission.
- Submission deadline of the manuscript is March 6, 2019.

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*The standard period of 60 days between the notification (of conditional accept) and the second submission can be shortened according as the review schedule.

*At least one of the authors must be an IEICE member when the manuscript is submitted for review. Invited papers are an exception. We recommend authors unaffiliated with IEICE to apply for the membership. <http://www.ieice.org/eng/join/member.html>

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