About the Bulletin

Bulletin Editors

Bulletin editors have two year appointments in which they take responsibility for two issues, one per year. The result is that at two year intervals, prior editors "retire" and new editors are appointed. This transition takes place in March of even numbered years. So now is the time to thank the editors whose terms are ending with the publication of the current issue. These editors (still listed on the inside front cover) are Sihem Amer-Yahia, Beng Chin Ooi, Jianwen Su, and Vassilis Tsotras. Each has produced two issues on topics of current interest to the database community. It is important for me to emphasize that the topics are chosen by these editors. I play, at most, a modest role in avoiding obvious overlap and trying to provide broad coverage. The success of the Bulletin depends in an essential way, on the efforts of the editors. So I want to thank them for having provided our readers with two years of special topic issues containing high quality papers focused on technology that is actively being investigated.

Bulletin Publication

I have dropped all the "draft" postscript versions from the Bulletin web site. Essentially everyone has web access that is sufficiently reliable and capable that these issues can now be dropped. I continue to weigh the dropping of postscript versions in an effort to further simplify the web site. Please provide input to this process, especially if you would like to continue accessing postscript versions.

ICDE: International Conference on Data Engineering

In 2011, ICDE will be in Hanover, Germany. ICDE is the signature conference of the IEEE Technical Committee on Data Engineering. This issue contains a "Call for Papers" for ICDE'11 on the inside back cover. Take note of the deadline for paper submission (July 16, 2010). I would encourage you all to submit papers to this high quality conference and hope to see you in Hanover in the spring of 2011.

The Current Issue

Keyword search has been and continues as a topic of great research interest and clear commercial importance. There are a large number of technologies being pursued, from trying to make search produce more relevant information, to including structured data, to making search more immediately responsive, and the list goes on. Indeed, no single issue can capture everything. The current issue includes survey articles as well as ongoing research articles and provides excellent coverage for this field. I want to thank Beng Chin Ooi for a fine job of assembling the issue and, as always is needed, handling the difficulties involved in publication of the issue. Readers will be well rewarded with this issue and its fine overview of keyword search.