

Letter from the Editor-in-chief

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SIGKDD Explorations completes seven exciting years as the official newsletter of the ACM SIGKDD community. I have been associated with the newsletter ever since its inception, first working as associate editor with Usama Fayyad and Paul Bradley, and for the past three years serving as editor-in-chief with Paul, Bing Liu and Osmar Zaiane. I was fortunate to work with several leading researchers in their role as special issue editors on various exciting topics, which I am sure you found valuable.

It gives me great pleasure now to hand over the editorship of the newsletter to the capable hands of R. Srikant as Editor-in-chief, and Bing Liu and Osmar Zaiane as Associate editors. Bing and Osmar have been with us for a year now and I greatly value their eager help and initiative in bringing forth the last two issues. Srikant needs no introduction in the KDD community and I look forward to the newsletter reaching new heights of relevance and quality during his tenure.

This issue

This issue is dedicated to the topic of Link mining. Our guest editors Lise Getoor and Christopher Diehl have compiled an excellent set of ten articles covering a varied set of issues that arise in mining a database of interlinked objects. The editors have been some of the early pioneers in the field and this reflects in their selection of contributors to this issue.

The December issue also serves as the forum for reporting highlights from the annual KDD conference. A valuable part of these reports are the articles by the organizers and winners of the KDD Cup competition. The workshop reports provide useful summaries for those who missed the many workshops that are held in conjunction with the main conference.

Thanks to the efforts of Gregory Piatetsky, with this issue we start another new feature of the newsletter, interviews with prominent data miners. I hope you will enjoy reading the interview as much as I did.