

by Imre J. Rudas

Imre Rudas Appointed President- Elect of the SMCS

I am deeply honored to be the president-elect of the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society (SMCS). I am ready to serve the Society and willing to dedicate time and effort to the position.

I have a long (almost 30 years!) history in the SMCS. My active life in the Society started by attending SMCS conferences in the 1990s. In 2002, I became a Chapter coordinator in Region 8 and was responsible for some Societies, including the SMCS. As a Chapter coordinator, I attended my first Board of Governors meeting during the SMCS 2002 conference in Hammamet, Tunisia. The meeting, its atmosphere, and the conference itself inspired me, and I became more aware of the personal and technical aspects of the Society. Since that time, I have considered the SMCS as my home Society.

It was my distinct pleasure to be elected as a Board of Governors member in 2009–2010, 2012, and 2014 and serve as vice president for Membership Development and Student Activities in 2014–2016. At SMCS conferences, I came together with many colleagues, including participants interested in computational cybernetics. To serve them and the common interest, I established the very active SMCS Technical Committee on Computational Cybernetics.

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I have been serving as a Technical Program Committee member of the annual SMCS conferences for many years; I was the Technical Program Committee cochair of the SMCS 2014 conference and the general chair of the SMCS 2016 conference in Budapest, Hungary. I am happy to now serve the SMCS in my capacity as president-elect and, later, as president.

The SMCS supports a variety of scientific and educational areas. This interdisciplinary character creates a very productive, synergetic environment and provides a foundation for our worldwide leadership. During my terms, I want to

- ◆ emphasize interdisciplinary views and opportunities
- ◆ enhance the global character of the SMCS and benefit more from international cooperation

- ◆ link our scientific and technical accomplishments with our educational duties.

The Society has two basic documents containing the strategy and its realization:

- ◆ SMCS Strategic Plan 2017–2021
- ◆ SMCS Promotion and Branding Plan (July 2018).

My long-term goals are to support

- ◆ the Strategic Plan
- ◆ the Promotion and Branding Plan
- ◆ new initiatives
- ◆ the continuous updating of the main documents when new challenges arise.

My short-term goals include

- ◆ increasing SMCS membership with more emphasis on BRIC (i.e., Brazil, India, China) countries
- ◆ increasing the number of participants in the SMCS by maintaining quality
- ◆ enhancing leadership in technical activities and publications
- ◆ enhancing our Young Professionals, Student, and Women in Engineering activities
- ◆ expanding social media activities.

As an internationally active and well-known academic, I will contribute to the advancement of SMCS fields by fostering new opportunities and introducing new activities to benefit our members and our profession. It is an honor and privilege to be part of fulfilling the Society's objectives, sharing my experiences, and promoting the worldwide operations and collaborations of the SMCS.

About the Author

Imre J. Rudas (rudas@uni-obuda.hu) is the president-elect of the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society.

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