

Call for Proposals: Special Issues

IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Circuits and Systems

IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Circuits and Systems (TBioCAS) will be dedicating a Special Issue each year to cover the emerging BioCAS areas. Any topic within the scope of the TBioCAS is appropriate and preference is given to new and/or emerging areas, especially those multidisciplinary in nature while traditionally not strictly in CAS fields.

A Special Issue (SI) consists of a maximum of 15 manuscripts. An emerging topic must be broad enough to capture a sufficient number of submissions to support this size of a SI, but not so broad that the acceptance rate is unacceptably low. Recognizing that such things are difficult to predict, a target acceptance rate would be in the 30-35% range, which suggests that 30-45 submissions is optimal. The length of a regular manuscript must be 9 pages maximum (incl. references and biographies).

Proposers must assemble a team of 2-4 Guest Editors (GEs), with one individual identified as the contact point (called the Corresponding Guest Editor, CGE). The GEs should be established researchers in the focus area of the special issue, or a closely-allied discipline. It is also desirable for the Guest Editing team to be technically and geographically balanced with industry and academia represented.

Guest editors may not submit original technical papers for the special issue. However, they are highly encouraged to provide a single overview tutorial-like paper (8-14 pages long). The goal is to help readers understand the topic better and potentially stimulate new researchers to work in the area.

The main responsibilities of the Guest Editing team are:

- **Informal Publicity:** The Editor-in-Chief will ensure that the Call-for-Papers is sent to all CASS members (IEEE-notice), newsletter, and Magazine, to other IEEE Societies Transactions, and will publicize via official CASS social media channels. The GEs are responsible for other more informal means of publicity, such as distributing the Call-for-Papers at conferences they attend, personally contacting delegates working in the area to solicit submissions, announcing the call for SI on their personal websites, social media, etc.
- **Paper Review:** As submissions are received, the GEs will assume the responsibility of its review process, that is, for finding reviewers to assess the quality of the submissions. It is desirable for each paper to receive five high-quality reviews, although three can suffice if all are consistent in their opinions. All reviewer invitations and feedback must be conducted through the TBioCAS Website <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tbcas>

- **Accept/Reject Decisions:** Keeping in mind the page limitations for TBioCAS issues, GEs work together to determine the manuscripts to be included in the special issue.
- **Special Issue Editorial/Organization:** GEs select the order in which the papers will appear in the special issue and prepare a 1 to 2 page editorial for introducing the special issue (topic, general contributions of the accepted manuscripts, and open areas for future research). The editorial and GE bios should occupy no more than 3 total printed pages.

Proposals are submitted to the Editor-in-Chief through email to: TbiocasEiC@ieee.org. The target date of this special issue publication will be December 2020 and the deadline for submitting the proposal is 31st March 2020. A proposal shall include the following:

- a. Rationale and motivation, including an explanation of why this is an emerging research topic, and the scope of the targeted special issue.
- b. Targeted community.
- c. A list of potential contributors.
- d. Brief (300 words) bio-sketches of the Corresponding Guest Editor (CGE) and Guest Editors (GE) including experience on editing technical publications.
- e. Relationship among guest editors, and track records of collaboration together.
- f. A proposed timeline of key milestones for the special issue.
- g. Draft Call for Papers for the special issue.