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Editorial

Dear Reader,

As I read through the papers presented in this edition, it is clear to me that we have come a long way in two-decades. This time twenty years ago, myself and many colleagues, not to mention much of industry and commerce, were braced for the aftermath of the Millennium Bug that soothsayers and technologists alike had convinced us was about to strike. Thankfully, the turn of the century came and went without any major calamity to the systems we as a human race were becoming increasingly dependent upon. However, the hype and sometimes misplaced fear about the Millennium Bug did for a time cause some to be sceptical about all such threats. It is thus encouraging to see a mix of papers that show not only how the field of computing and its cognate disciplines are advancing at an impressive rate but also those that present tangible means of mitigating the risks and threats that can be targeted at such developments.

I look forward to the next twenty years with a sense of excitement and trepidation. The advancements will, I hope, continue for the benefit of all mankind but the risks we face present a real and present danger. We thus need to work hard to ensure that the benefits get maximised and the risks get minimised, and – as importantly – that all, not just a few, benefit from the progress made.

With best wishes for 2020.

Professor Andrew Ware, On behalf of the Editorial Board, Annals of Emerging Technologies in Computing (AETiC).