

IEEE World Congress on Computational Intelligence

**William Egan Civic & Convention Center
Anchorage, Alaska
May 4 - 9, 1998**

General Chair:
Patrick K. Simpson,
Scientific Fishery Systems, Inc.

WCCI 98 Program Chair:
Dr. Jacek Zurada,
University of Louisville

Tutorial Chair:
Dr. Robert J. Marks II,
The University of Washington

General Vice-Chair:
Karen Haines,
University of New Mexico

Finance Chair:
Robert Harris,
Alaska Village Electric Cooperative

**Sponsored by the International Neural Network Society,
IEEE Neural Networks Council, and
the IEEE Alaska Section**



GREETINGS FROM THE GENERAL CHAIR

Dear WCCI 98 Attendee:

I am extremely proud to have this opportunity to welcome you to the second IEEE World Congress on Computational Intelligence (WCCI). The first WCCI was held in Orlando, Florida in 1994. I was President of the IEEE Neural Networks Council at that time, a position that offered me the opportunity to see first-hand how exciting a meeting like this can be. Experts from within the Evolutionary Computation, Fuzzy System, and Neural Network community were sharing ideas, results, and common interests for over a week. It invigorated many scientists and engineers, including myself.

Now, four years later, we find ourselves trying to repeat that excitement here in Anchorage, Alaska. For many reasons, this meeting is a special event. First, this is the first major IEEE meeting to ever be held in Anchorage. We hope there are many more. Tell your IEEE leaders to consider Anchorage for future meetings so that you can come back and visit us again. Second, this meeting heralds the return of the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN). In the late 1980's and early 1990's, the International Joint Conference on Neural Network Society and the IEEE Neural Network Council held many jointly sponsored meetings. In 1994, these meetings were held separately. We are now back together again, and it is my personal opinion this is what is best for the field.

Finally, I have asked the leaders in all three disciplines to offer their perspective on what are the "Grand Challenges" of Computational Intelligence. Each of the ten plenary speakers have been asked to spend some time on this topic, and there are several panel sessions dedicated to this subject. It is my hope that we will all walk away with a set of new challenges clearly defined and the motivation to accept those challenges.

In closing, I hope you all enjoy your time in Alaska. Above all, I hope you leave WCCI 98 with many wonderful, lasting memories.

Patrick K. Simpson
General Chair, WCCI '98

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**The 1998 IEEE International Conference
on Fuzzy Systems**

**IEEE World Congress
on Computational Intelligence**

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The 1998 IEEE International Conference on Evolutionary Computation

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