

Message from General Chair and Co-Chairs

General Chair



B. YEGNANARAYANA

International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad

General Co-Chairs



C. CHANDRA SEKHAR

Indian Institute of Technology Madras



SHRIKANTH NARAYANAN

University of Southern California, Los Angeles



S. UMESH

Indian Institute of Technology Madras



S. R. M. PRASANNA

Indian Institute of Technology Dharwad

Interspeech is the world's largest and most comprehensive conference on the science and technology of speech and spoken language processing. The conference emphasizes interdisciplinary approaches, addressing all aspects of speech science and technology, ranging from basic theories to advanced applications.

Interspeech 2018 is the 19th annual conference of the International Speech Communication Association (ISCA). We are honoured and delighted to host this year's conference in Hyderabad, the capital city of the newly formed state of Telangana in India. The venue of Interspeech 2018 is the Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC), a state-of-the-art facility to host conferences for over 10000 delegates. The attached Novotel hotel is a modern five star hotel with 287 guest rooms. The surrounding HiTech city area has numerous options for transport, accommodation, food, shopping and entertainment, all within a radius of about 10 kilometres from HICC. The city of Hyderabad is over four hundred years old, and has numerous attractions for visitors. There is something for everyone – historical monuments, museums, palaces, handicraft emporiums,

antiques stores, jewellery shops, leather shops, restaurants serving several gastronomic delights, and yoga ashrams. The HICC is 40 minute drive from the Rajiv Gandhi international airport, which is rated among the best in the world for airport service quality.

India is a land of rich history and diversity. With a population of over 1.3 billion, and a geographical area of over 3 million square kilometres, India's rich diversity includes languages, script, history, arts, culture, clothing, cuisine, customs, hospitality, climate, terrain, flora and fauna. This makes communication among people, especially in spoken form, unique and challenging for scientific research and exploration. The theme of Interspeech 2018 "Speech Research for Emerging Markets in Multilingual Societies" is chosen in view of the focus of voice-based mobile services and emerging AI applications by industries across the world. Interspeech 2018 will give a rare opportunity to experience first hand, the challenges of providing technology services to a large multilingual population, with code switching in day-to-day conversations.

The technical program of the Interspeech 2018 conference starts with a talk by the ISCA medalist of this year, Dr. Bishnu S Atal, who happens to hail from India, and educated at the famous Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. The technical program committee has worked tirelessly to come up with an excellent 5-day program, which includes plenary talks, oral and poster presentations, tutorials, special sessions and events, show & tell sessions, exhibits and social events. In addition to attending technical sessions, we hope that participants will be able to take some time off to enjoy and experience the wide variety of options for food, shopping and historical monuments that the city offers.

While the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras is the main organizer of the conference, the following institutes in India actively participated and supported this effort: IIIT Hyderabad, IISc Bangalore, IIT Bombay, IIT Mandi, IIT Tirupati, Vignan University, AIISH Mysore, BVRIT Hyderabad and Geetanjali College of Engineering and Technology Hyderabad. The Government of India, especially DRDO and MEiTY, have also generously supported Interspeech 2018. We are very grateful to receive support in the form of sponsorship from many companies and organizations, which include: Amazon, Apple, Baidu, Microsoft, Facebook, Samsung, Uniphore, JD.com, Xiaomi, Qualcomm, Google, IBM Research, Yahoo Japan, Sogou, Nvidia, Adobe, GoVivace, Nuance and the University of Washington.

The organizing committee would like to acknowledge the excellent support from the team led by Arjun Narne, KW Conferences. The organizing committee would also like to thank the ISCA advisory committee, reviewers, area chairs, session chairs and volunteers for their dedicated effort.

Many participants of Interspeech 2018 are going to be the first time visitors to India. India means different things to different people. Come and participate in Interspeech 2018, and discover for yourself what India means for you. We look forward to welcoming you to Hyderabad, and to India.

B. Yegnanarayana

General Chair

C. Chandra Sekhar Shrikanth Narayanan S. Umesh S. R. M. Prasanna

General Co-Chairs