



the intelligence CoNnection

President's Corner: *The Focus of the Council*

Robert J. Marks II



The majority of papers submitted to the 1991 Seattle IJCNN deal with applications. This, I believe, is further evidence that the field of artificial neural networks has matured significantly in the last few years. The interest and activity in neural networks is at a higher level than ever before. The charter of the *IEEE Neural Networks Council* is to continue the

nurturing of this maturation through technical conferences and publications.

Around the maturing of the field of artificial neural networks have sprouted other new and exciting biologically motivated computational paradigms, including genetic algorithms and evolutionary programming. Training methods not constrained to neural network architectures are attracting much attention. The more mature field of fuzzy systems is emerging as a singularly significant field of technology.

The *Neural Networks Council* is dedicated to involvement in these and other emerging technologies in the field of intelligent systems. As you can see elsewhere in this newsletter, we will be sponsoring in February 1992 the

first ever *IEEE International Conference on Fuzzy Systems*. This is the first IEEE conference of international scope ever dedicated solely to the topic of fuzzy systems. The Council's *Transactions on Neural Networks* will also soon have a special issue devoted to the topic.

The newly introduced Neural Network Council Forum series of smaller scale meetings allows flexibility to explore other evolving areas in the field of intelligent systems. (Watch for the announcement of Forum meetings in Council publications.) As is the case with artificial neural networks, the Council will play a major role in the evolution and maturing of these new and exciting related technologies.

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