Preface

This book contains refereed papers presented at the 9th Workshop on Self-Organizing Maps (WSOM 2012) held at the Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile, on December 12–14, 2012. The workshop brought together researchers and practitioners in the field of self-organizing systems. Among the book chapters there are excellent examples of the use of SOMs in agriculture, computer science, data visualization, health systems, economics, engineering, social sciences, text and image analysis, and time series analysis. Other chapters present the latest theoretical work on SOMs as well as Learning Vector Quantization (LVQ) methods.

Our deep appreciation is extended to Teuvo Kohonen, for serving as Honorary General Chair and for enthusiastically supporting the idea of holding the workshop for the first time in Latin-America.

We warmly thank the members of the Steering Committee and the Executive Committee. In particular we thank to Guilherme Barreto, Publicity Chair, and Timo Honkela, for handling the papers with conflict of interest.

Our sincere thanks go to Barbara Hammer and José Príncipe for their plenary talks. We are grateful to the members of the Program Committee and other reviewers for their excellent and timely work, and above all to the authors whose contributions made this book possible.

October 2012

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WSOM 2012 was held during December 12–14, 2012, organized by the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Chile.

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