Preface

This volume contains the proceeding of the 5th International Conference on Image and Video Retrieval (CIVR), July 13–15, 2006, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA: http://www.civr2006.org. Image and video retrieval continues to be one of the most exciting and fast-growing research areas in the field of multimedia technology. However, opportunities for exchanging ideas between researchers and users of image and video retrieval systems are still limited. The International Conference on Image and Video Retrieval (CIVR) has taken on the mission of bringing together these communities to allow researchers and practitioners around the world to share points of view on image and video retrieval. A unique feature of the conference is the emphasis on participation from practitioners. The objective is to illuminate critical issues and energize both communities for the continuing exploration of novel directions for image and video retrieval.

We received over 90 submissions for the conference. Each paper was carefully reviewed by three members of the program committee, and then checked by one of the program chairs and/or general chairs. The program committee consisted of more than 40 experts in image and video retrieval from Europe, Asia and North America, and we drew upon approximately 300 high-quality reviews to ensure a thorough and fair review process. The paper submission and review process was fully electronic, using the EDAS system.

The quality of the submitted papers was very high, forcing the committee members to make some difficult decisions. Due to time and space constraints, we could only accept 18 oral papers and 30 poster papers. These 48 papers formed interesting sessions on Interactive Image and Video Retrieval, Semantic Image Retrieval, Visual Feature Analysis, Learning and Classification, Image and Video Retrieval Metrics, and Machine Tagging. To encourage participation from practitioners, we also had a strong demo session, consisting of 10 demos, ranging from VideoSOM, a SOM-based interface for video browsing, to collaborative concept tagging for images based on ontological thinking. Arizona State University (ASU) was the host of the conference, and has a very strong multimedia analysis and retrieval program. We therefore also included a special ASU session of 5 papers.

We would like to thank the Local Chair, Gang Qian; Finance Chair, Baoxin Li; Web Chair, Daniel Gatica-Perez; Demo Chair, Nicu Sebe; Publicity Chairs, Tat-Seng Chua, Rainer Lienhart and Chitra Dorai; Poster Chair, Ajay Divakaran; and Panel Chair John Kender, without whom the conference would not have been possible. We also want to give our sincere thanks to the three distinguished keynote speakers: Ben Shneiderman (“Exploratory Search Interfaces to Support Image Discovery”), Gulruksh Ahanger (“Embrace and Tame the Digital Content”), and Marty Harris (“Discovering a Fish in a Forest of Trees. False Positives and User Expectations in Visual Retrieval. Experiments in CBIR and the
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Visual Arts”), whose talks highlighted interesting future directions of multimedia retrieval.

Finally, we wish to thank all the authors who submitted their work to the conference, and the program committee members for all the time and energy they invested in the review process. The quality of research between these covers reflects the efforts of many individuals, and their work is their gift to the multimedia retrieval community. It has been our pleasure and privilege to accept this gift.

May 2006

John Smith and Yong Rui
General Co-Chairs

Hari Sundaram and Milind R. Naphade
Program Co-Chairs
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