

COLUMN: From the Editor in Chief

Top Picks

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It is my great pleasure to welcome you to *IEEE Micro*'s 2018 May/June issue devoted to Top Picks, a selection of articles that have the potential to influence the work of computer architects in the near future. Top Picks recognizes those research contributions from the past year's computer architecture conferences with high novelty and high potential for long-term impact. Any article published in the top computer architecture conferences of 2017 was eligible. We received 112 submissions, which made the selection process very challenging.

Tom Wenisch (University of Michigan) chaired this year's selection committee, which consisted of 31 experts from academia and industry. The selection committee identified 12 Top Picks and nine honorable mentions. An article recognized as a Top Pick was invited to prepare an article for inclusion in this special issue. The articles in this special issue are typically more high-level than the original conference articles while focusing on their potential impact. The honorable mentions are top articles that the selection committee unfortunately was unable to recognize as a Top Pick because of magazine space constraints; these articles are acknowledged in the guest editor's column.

Browsing through the selected articles reassures us of the wide breadth of our field. Topics span many subjects, including datacenter architecture, accelerators, security, memory, verification, quantum computing, ultra-low-power processors, interconnection networks, and modeling. I hope you enjoy reading these articles as much as I did.

The purpose of Top Picks is twofold. First and foremost, Top Picks was originally instigated to present "the best of the best" of the year's research contributions for people in industry (and non-experts in other fields). A comprehensive article included in the magazine serves as an excellent introduction to these top-quality works. A second goal of Top Picks is to award excellent research in our field. While everyone likes receiving awards, it is critically important for our young researchers—it might make an actual difference for those aspiring to a faculty position, tenure promotion, leading research position in industry, or prestigious research grant. This has led to Top Picks being perceived as a major recognition in the field of computer architecture.

In closing, I want to congratulate all the authors for their fantastic work. I also want to thank all the selection committee members for their dedication and effort in taking part in the process that led to this special issue. This is a very important service to the community. Finally, I want to wholeheartedly thank Tom for having done an excellent job as chair of the selection committee.

With that, I would like to conclude and wish you a happy reading, as always.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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