Message from the Editor

Dear Readers and Colleagues,

I welcome you on my first address in this issue of the Journal of King Saud University – Computer and Information Sciences.

This issue includes thirteen interesting papers covering a variety of hot topics. The first two papers present some new results on Arabic stemmers: one based on Arabic Gulf dialect and the other on a more fundamental aspect related to root-based Arabic. In the next paper, some clustering techniques are developed to choose high quality initial seeds for K-means clustering algorithms. A very interesting paper follows where a fuzzy petri net tool was designed to detect esophageal cancer. A mix of graphics and mathematics is used in the next paper in developing an algorithmic approach to determine the admissible area under a monolithic curve. A wireless network paper follows with an algorithm for the formation of teams in MANETs borrowing some ideas from social networks. In the paper that follows, a new idea of designing special games to treat brain injuries is presented. Afterward, a new pattern-based refactoring model combining UML, B and CSP for software development is presented. A database paper in which some transformation rules for decomposing heterogeneous data into triples follows. Then, three papers will present some novel techniques in security and encryption: one on biometric smart cards authentication, one on password user authentication for EPR information systems, and the third on the effects of spams on Arabic websites popularity. Finally, the issue is closed with a paper that presents the major challenges in developing a successful e-government by taking a case study of Oman.

I hope you will enjoy and benefit from reading this issue or at least parts of it, and I look forward to seeing you through this page in our upcoming issues, which we will work hard to have them more resourceful and with more variety of current and hot topics. In the meanwhile, I will be grateful if I receive your comments and suggestions for a better Journal.

Nasser-Eddine Rikli
Editor-in-Chief of KSUCI