Preface

Welcome to the twenty-second Midwest Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science Conference (MAICS2011)! This is the third time this conference is being held in Cincinnati.

This year MAICS received over 40 submissions. Over 30 papers are included in the program and the conference proceedings. Although MAICS is considered a regional conference, researchers from seven countries submitted papers to the conference. We consider this as a global recognition of the continuously improving quality of the MAICS conferences. The quality of the conference owes a great deal to the work of the program committee whose members worked diligently. They supplied thorough reviews including extended comments and suggestions for the authors. Given the diversity of topics covered by the papers submitted, the review task was rather challenging.

In keeping with the tradition of the previous conferences, this year too, graduate students and junior researchers were encouraged to submit their work to be presented along with that of more senior researchers. We are delighted by the contribution and participation of students. About 50% of accepted papers are primarily authored by students and, as a result of competitive review scores, the Program Committee nominates four student papers for the best student paper award sponsored by Cognitive Science Society.

This year the conference features two key current topics – *Brain* and *Security*. Dr. Isao Hayashi, from Kansai University, Japan, who will deliver the plenary lecture, sponsored by Omron, Japan. He shares with us recent advancements in Brain-Computer Interface and his vision for this domain. The *Security* topic is covered in the special session on Artificial Intelligence in Biometrics and Identity, whose organizers are Dr. Bryant, Dr. Dozier, Dr. Ricanek, Dr. Savvides, and Dr. Woodard. We hope that everybody will find these events informative and inspirational.

Thanks are due to many. First to York F. Choo, who (as for MAICS2008), designed the conference web page and the front cover of the conference proceedings. We thank our students, at *Eastern Washington University*, *University of Cincinnati*, and the *College of Wooster*, helped us in many ways. We thank our sponsors for their generosity and especially for their administrative support – *CINCO Credit Union*, *the Cognitive Science Society*, *College of Wooster*, *Eastern Washington University*, *Omron*, and *University of Cincinnati*.

We hope that MAICS2011 will be interesting and that, at its conclusion, you will have enjoyed its scientific aspect, engaged in lively and interesting discussions, and forged new friendships and possible collaborations.

Atsushi Inoue, General Chair   Anca Ralescu, General Chair   Sofia Visa, Program Chair