In December 2018, Dr. Gary Fogel was our distinguished guest thanks to the DL program of the IEEE-CIS. Dr. Fogel is Chief Executive Officer at Natural Selection, Inc., a company based in San Diego, U.S.A., that applies sophisticated, nature-inspired, computational intelligence algorithms for predictive analytics and forecasting. They have solved a wide-range of challenging problems in medicine, industry, and defense, and received the inaugural Organization Award from the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society. Dr. Gary Fogel has over 25 years of experience in the field. He received the Ph.D. in biology from the University of California, Los Angeles, USA, in 1998 and the B.A. in biology with a minor in geology from the University of California, San Diego, in 1991. Dr. Fogel’s efforts include many applications of computational intelligence to biomedicine from drug discovery to companion diagnostics to process and price optimization. Dr. Fogel is an IEEE Fellow and has received awards from Sigma Xi and other organizations for his efforts in predictive analytics with machine learning approaches.

Dr. Gary Fogel delivered two interesting lectures on Computational Intelligence Applications in Healthcare, on Thursday December 13th and Friday December 14th, 2018. Both lectures were well attended, and sparked several questions from the attendees. The talks were delivered in the frame of our Summer School on Computational Intelligence (EVIC), held between December 12th and 14th, 2018.

The EVIC is jointly organized by the Chilean Chapter of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society and the institution that hosts it, which in year 2018 was the Universidad de Santiago de Chile (USACH). Our aim is to show state-of-the-art research and developments in Computational Intelligence (Neural Networks, Fuzzy Logic, and Evolutionary Computation, etc.), and also to spread the knowledge about Computer Intelligence by explaining the basics of its models, algorithms, and their applications in many different areas. EVIC is a reference event in Latin America, which brings together the entire ecosystem that revolves around Computational Intelligence and its academic, business and industrial-related opportunities. Computational Intelligence applications in different areas were discussed, such as: Intelligent Control Systems, Astroinformatics, Biomedical Engineering, Bio-informatics, Robotics, Computer Vision, Computational Neuroscience, Scientific Data and Big Data, among others. (see more at www.evic.cl).

A total of 243 people registered for EVIC 2018, without counting the speakers, helping personnel, organizers and people at the sponsor’s booths. This amount of attendees is an
absolute record for EVIC. 132 came from Santiago, 105 visited from other regions in Chile, and 6 came from abroad. The School was highlighted by the university news, as can be seen at https://www.fing.usach.cl/2018/12/20/evic-instalo-la-tematica-de-inteligencia-artificial-en-nuestra-universidad-con-exitoso-evento/. The presentation structure was to have plenary talks in the mornings and tutorials in the afternoon. There were coffee breaks offered in each session. EVIC includes an extensive grant program to help students to attend; moreover, DL talks were open for free for all IEEE-CIS members.

One of the afternoons was also host of the student poster competition, which had a record number of 32 posters. Participants had the great opportunity of having Dr. Fogel as one of the jury members.

This year’s EVIC also included actions to promote the participation of women in engineering and science. Dr. Fogel was a special guest at the lunch meeting with women students and professors, were he highlighted IEEE CIS programs to help encourage women to enter and feel welcome in CI.

We are tremendously grateful to Dr. Gary Fogel to come and visit us, delivering his speeches, and contributing to the success of the Summer School, with his knowledge and positive and committed attitude.

Dr. Gary Fogel (Natural Selection, Inc), was our distinguished guest at EVIC 2018, held at Universidad de Santiago, Chile.
Dr. Gary Fogel, DL IEEE CIS, presenting his interesting contributions about computational intelligence applications in healthcare, at plenary sessions of EVIC 2018, held at Universidad de Santiago, Chile.

Dr. Gary Fogel, DL IEEE CIS, gave two lectures on computational intelligence applications in healthcare, on December 13th and 14th, 2018, at the Enrique Frömel auditorium, Universidad de Santiago.
Questions time at the end of a plenary session at EVIC 2018, in the Enrique Frömel auditorium, Universidad de Santiago.

Dr. Gary Fogel, DL IEEE CIS, participating as a jury at the student poster competition, at EVIC 2018, Universidad de Santiago, Chile
Dr. Gary Fogel, DL IEEE CIS, invited to the women’s lunch, which was well attended with over 60 people.