



IEEE Computational Intelligence Society

WCCI 2016 CIS History Panel

How did we start and how did we get here?

Panelists (in chronological order)

James Bezdek

Piero P. Bonissone

Jacek M. Zurada

Vincenzo Piuri

Rudolf Seising

Panel Moderator: Piero P Bonissone

History Panel Goal

Society History

- Provide a brief chronology of the transition from Neural Networks Council (NNC) to Neural Networks Society (NNS) to Computational Intelligence Society (CIS)
- Hear anecdotal comments about this transition directly from past presidents of the Council/Society

Technology History

- History of Fuzzy Sets and Systems

Presidents of the IEEE NN Council (NNC) / NN Society (NNS) / Computational Intelligence Society (CIS)

Year	President	Year	President
1990	Robert J. Marks II	2004	Jacek M. Zurada
1991	Robert J. Marks II	2005	Jacek M. Zurada
1992	Russell Eberhart	2006	Vincenzo Piuri
1993	Russell Eberhart	2007	Vincenzo Piuri
1994	Patrick K. Simpson	2008	David Fogel
1995	Walter Karplus	2009	David Fogel
1996	Walter Karplus	2010	Gary Yen
1997	James Bezdek	2011	Gary Yen
1998	James Bezdek	2012	Marios M. Polycarpou
1999	Clifford Lau	2013	Marios M. Polycarpou
2000	Clifford Lau	2014	Xin Yao
2001	Enrique H. Ruspini	2015	Xin Yao
2002	Piero P. Bonissone	2016	Pablo Estévez
2003	Evangelia Micheli-Tzanakou	2017	Pablo Estévez

Presidents of the IEEE NN Council (NNC) / NN Society (NNS) / Computational Intelligence Society (CIS)

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1990	Robert J. Marks II	2004	Jacek M. Zurada
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1994	Patrick K. Simpson	2008	David Fogel
1995	Walter Karplus	2009	David Fogel
1996	Walter Karplus	2010	Gary Yen
1997	James Bezdek	2011	Gary Yen
1998	James Bezdek	2012	Marios M. Polycarpou
1999	Clifford Lau	2013	Marios M. Polycarpou
2000	Clifford Lau	2014	Xin Yao
2001	Enrique H. Ruspini	2015	Xin Yao
2002	Piero P. Bonissone	2016	Pablo Estévez
2003	Evangelia Micheli-Tzanakou	2017	Pablo Estévez

RUSSELL EBERHART, NNC President 1992-1993

Year	President
1990	Robert J. Marks II
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1992	Russell Eberhart
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1997	James Bezdek
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1999	Clifford Lau
2000	Clifford Lau
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2002	Piero P. Bonissone
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Second president of the Neural Networks Council

JIM BEZDEK, NNC President 1997-1998

Year	President
1990	Robert J. Marks II
1991	Robert J. Marks II
1992	Russell Eberhart
1993	Russell Eberhart
1994	Patrick K. Simpson
1995	Walter Karplus
1996	Walter Karplus
1997	James Bezdek
1998	James Bezdek
1999	Clifford Lau
2000	Clifford Lau
2001	Enrique H. Ruspini
2002	Piero P. Bonissone
2003	Evangelia Micheli-Tzanakou



Fifth president of the Neural Networks Council

PIERO BONISSONE, NNS President 2002

Year	President
1990	Robert J. Marks II
1991	Robert J. Marks II
1992	Russell Eberhart
1993	Russell Eberhart
1994	Patrick K. Simpson
1995	Walter Karplus
1996	Walter Karplus
1997	James Bezdek
1998	James Bezdek
1999	Clifford Lau
2000	Clifford Lau
2001	Enrique H. Ruspini
2002	Piero P. Bonissone
2003	Evangelia Micheli-Tzanakou



First president of the
Neural Networks Society

2001 – Enrique Ruspini

2002 – Piero Bonissone

The (painful) transition from NNC to NNS

- After 12 years in a council formed by 12 sponsoring societies, and,
- after several unsuccessful attempts in the mid-late 90's to elevate the council to a society (mainly opposed by 2 IEEE Societies, CS and SMC),
- in mid 2001 Enrique Ruspini (President) and I (President Elect) presented a transition proposal to IEEE Tab.
- After defeating a “*postpone*” motion by a 24-23 vote, our motion (moved by the RAB society) passed with a 29-12 vote.
- The IEEE BOD approved IEEE TAB motion in February 2002
- SUCCESS (after a 12 year gestation)!

2002 – Piero Bonissone

Neural Networks Society - Early Issues:

NNS Membership

- Since the society was formally approved by the IEEE BOD in February 2002, we did not have any members in 2002. (IEEE society membership is done in Fall of the previous year)
- Our main effort was to transform subscribers of our transaction to members of our society.
- We created a new ExCom position VP Membership (Vincenzo Piuri), with the goal of creating society chapters.
- At the end of the year we had over 4000 members, becoming a mid-size society.

IEEE EvC Transactions - Welcome

Editorial: Welcome to the IEEE Neural Networks Society

I WANT to welcome you to our newly formed society. On February 17, 2002, the IEEE Neural Networks Council (NNC), publisher of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON NEURAL NETWORKS (TNN), the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON FUZZY SYSTEMS (TFS), and the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON EVOLUTIONARY COMPUTATION (TEC), became the IEEE Neural Networks Society (NNS). This accomplishment was made possible by the relentless efforts of our ExCom members, and in particular by the 2001 NNC President, Dr. Enrique Ruspini, who led us through this transition. I want to take this opportunity to thank them all for their devotion and hard work.

Our society covers the same field of interest as the previous council, namely: “the theory, design, application, and development of biologically and linguistically motivated computational paradigms emphasizing neural networks, including connectionist systems, genetic algorithms, evolutionary programming, fuzzy systems, and hybrid intelligent systems in which these paradigms are contained.” These topics are sometimes included in broader frameworks, usually referred to as computational intelligence or soft computing. Such frameworks allow us to represent and integrate these approaches, and provide us with a flexible paradigm to leverage knowledge from domain experts and information from field data. These hybrid systems are covered routinely in our transactions and can also be found in recent

jective optimization, particle swarm optimization, data mining and knowledge extraction, neuro-informatics, computational neuroscience, artificial life and artificial immune systems, etc. We have devoted special issues of our transactions to some of these topics, organized special tracks at our conferences, and sponsored specialized symposia, workshops, and satellite conferences to provide a nurturing environment for these new fields.

As a subscriber of one of our TRANSACTIONS, I also want to congratulate you, because you finally have a home, a professional society whose identity truly reflects your technical area of expertise. Individual subscribers such as you, representing the best of our technical and scientific communities, will be part of this new society. You are now entitled to receive a free copy of our electronic newsletter, containing information about our society, calendar of events, review articles, and other items of interest. We would also like to extend to you an invitation to become a member of the IEEE Neural Networks Society for 2003. Our yearly membership fee of \$10.00 for IEEE members or IEEE affiliates will allow you to take full advantage of our high-quality educational product offerings. Next year’s membership benefits will include a newsletter, access (for a subscription fee of \$15.00) to all our current and archival electronic publications, and the opportunity to buy the “computational intelligence package” that contains all

JACEK ZURADA, CIS President 2004-2005

Year	President
2004	Jacek M. Zurada
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2009	David Fogel
2010	Gary Yen
2011	Gary Yen
2012	Marios M. Polycarpou
2013	Marios M. Polycarpou
2014	Xin Yao
2015	Xin Yao
2016	Pablo Estévez
2017	Pablo Estévez



First president of the Computational Intelligence Society

VINCENZO PIURI, CIS President 2006-2007

Year	President
2004	Jacek M. Zurada
2005	Jacek M. Zurada
2006	Vincenzo Piuri
2007	Vincenzo Piuri
2008	David Fogel
2009	David Fogel
2010	Gary Yen
2011	Gary Yen
2012	Marios M. Polycarpou
2013	Marios M. Polycarpou
2014	Xin Yao
2015	Xin Yao
2016	Pablo Estévez
2017	Pablo Estévez



Second president of the
Computational
Intelligence Society

RUDOLF SEISING, CIS Historian

Background

[History of Science, Philosophy of Science,](#)
[Artificial Intelligence, Mathematics,](#)
[Computer Science](#)

“From vagueness in medical thought to the foundations of fuzzy reasoning in medical diagnosis”
Artificial Intelligence in Medicine 38 (3), 237-256

“Cybernetics, system (s) theory, information theory and fuzzy sets and systems in the 1950s and 1960s”
Information Sciences 180 (23), 4459-4476

“The Fuzzification of Systems: The Genesis of Fuzzy Set Theory and its Initial Applications-Developments up to the 1970s”
Springer Publishing Company, Incorporated



Thank you



We now open the forum to the audience for Q&A