I feel incredibly honored to be entrusted by the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society with the duty of the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Circuits and Systems Magazine for 2012–2013. The IEEE Circuits and Systems Magazine, now in its twelfth year of publication, has provided a multi-faceted platform for disseminating technology and research information relevant to the interests of members of our Society at varying levels of depth, breadth and cross-disciplinarity, as well as vibrantly bringing relevant works from new and emerging scientific disciplines to the attention of our Society. In the process of pursuing this unique objective, I also feel very privileged to be part of the editorial team under the leadership of the immediate past Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Guanrong Chen, serving as one of his Associate Editors in 2008–2009 and his Deputy Editor-in-Chief in 2010–2011.

Our Society has a proud history of innovation. Our members have pioneered the development of many foundational disciplines which have been pivotal to the creation of innovative applications in circuit integration, telecommunications, signal processing, industrial control processes, power conversion, biomedicine, sensor systems, etc. The field of circuits and systems is still full of challenges as we are at a crossroad where technology advancement and possible breakthroughs will require new theoretical frameworks that can facilitate cross-disciplinary developments. Thus, despite the relative maturity of many of the fundamental disciplines within circuits and systems, new and complex problems have continuously emerged that open up new opportunities for researchers and technology developers whose primary interests rest within the realm of our Society. As far as my role as the Editor-in-Chief of this Magazine is concerned, the key question is how can we make the best use of this journal to facilitate the development of our field at this juncture of technological advancement. Our strategy in selecting the kinds of articles for publication should be as liberal and unrestricted as possible, including, for example, reviewing the current status of our development, bringing new insights into our community, opening up new areas of research, facilitating exchanges on open problems, promoting good educational practices and so on. Throughout this process, maintaining a high standard of publication will always be our top priority.

While this Magazine continues to fulfill its key broad missions as set out by Prof. Guanrong Chen (see Editorial on page 4 of Issue 1, First Quarter, 2008), it undergoes continuous fine-tuning and adjustment of editorial direction—something which is necessary in order to meet the changing needs and expectations of our readers. For instance, a concerted effort has been and will continue to be made in inviting eminent researchers in emerging fields of interests to organize special issues that would bring new insights for applications in circuits and systems. We will also put particular emphasis on promoting GOLD members’ contributions and the Open Forum column that encourages readers’ interaction through discussion of open problems and future research and development trends.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the former Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Guanrong Chen, for his excellent leadership that has made the Magazine a top-notch publication within our field. I would also like to thank my new team of Associate Editors for accepting my invitation to serve on the editorial board. Their dedicated service will be indispensable to the success of the Magazine!

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of the twelfth volume of the Magazine. I hope you will continue to enjoy reading the upcoming issues!