The *International Journal of Virtual Communities and Social Networking* is well into its second year of publication. Interest in the field of virtual communities and social networking is still very high, and it is reflected in the diverse group of papers that we have for this issue. The papers in this issue cover topics such as online job searching, accepting boss’s friend request, business models for social networks, occupational networking among highly-skilled IT contractors, and social networking among college students. The five articles in this issue are from all over the world, and they present research from six countries: Malaysia, USA, Germany, United Kingdom, India and the Netherlands. This reiterates the global nature of the social networking phenomenon. In the paragraphs that follow I briefly describe each of the papers in this issue.

In the first paper, Suki, Ramayah, and Ming, examine job searching among employed job seekers using social networking sites. They used an extended Technology Acceptance Model to look at use of online social networking sites as job search tools. Their results show that perceived usefulness and perceived enjoyment are positively related to the behavioral intention to use of these sites, while perceived ease of use is not significantly related to behavioral intention to use. In the second paper, Karl, Peluchette, and Schlaegel, try to answer an interesting question, should employees accept their boss’s Facebook “Friend” request?” In their study of US and German employees, they found that German respondents are move likely to have positive reactions to such a request compared to their US counterparts. While cultural differences were noted, there were no gender differences between respondents in the US and Germany.

Rana and Caton forecast changes to the world of social networking with the increasing use of cloud computing in the third paper of this issue. They suggest a move to “social clouds” where friends can share resources within the context of a social network. Rana and Caton discuss business models that are based on these social clouds. In the fourth paper, Voutsina examines occupational networking as form of professional identification among highly-skilled IT contractors. Using interviews with IT contractors the author suggests that virtual networks have become for the contractors the primary object of professional identification. In the last paper of this issue, Kanagavel and Velayutham research the impact of social networking on college students in India and in the Netherlands. They investigate how college students create an identity for themselves in the virtual world and how they relate to others online. The authors found that Indian students spend more time, but they are less active than Dutch students on social networks.

I would like to thank the authors who contributed to this issue. I would also like to thank the editorial staff at IGI Global for their support and patience.

Subhasish Dasgupta  
Editor-in-Chief  
IJVCSN