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FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Greetings from the Ural Federal University

Elvira E. Symaniuk

Ural Federal University named after first President of Russia B. N. Yeltsin, Yekaterinburg, Russia

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Уральский федеральный университет имени первого Президента России Б. Н. Ельцина, Екатеринбург, Россия

Corresponding author. E-mail: e.e.symaniuk@urfu.ru

Dear authors and readers!

This issue is devoted to research findings presented at the International Forums of *Cognitive Neuroscience* at Ural Federal University in 2019 and 2020.

In recent years, growing interest in cognitive neurosciences has created a need for high-quality research, dialogue and interaction of all structures related to the sphere. Ural Federal University became a center for discussing the latest achievements in neurocognitive research, defining trends of its development, fostering international and regional partnership, establishing links for large-scale longitudinal research, building scientific competencies in the field of neuroscience.

The topics of the Forums address a wide range of issues. This is the neurocognitive development of a person at different stages of ontogenesis (from birth to aging); mechanisms of the formation of cognitive functions in typically and atypically developing children; neuropsychology and psychogenetics; the functioning of cognitive processes; machine learning problems; practical application of neurotechnologies, hardware diagnostic tools; psycholinguistics and neuroheuristics; issues of differentiation of neurosciences. The Forums presented research: in the field of genomics of aggressive and depressive human behavior; specific features of early development and formation of motor skills; issues of digitalization and modern childhood; research findings on working memory and ways of information processing; the use of neurointerfaces, methods of teaching artificial intelligence; age-related disorders, depression and resources for successful aging; differentiation of neurosciences, including their analysis from the perspective of art.

A separate section is devoted to the work of young researchers who are beginning their journey in the area of neurocognitive sciences.

The possibility of wide application of fundamental knowledge about the functions of the brain, neural processes, mechanisms of the psyche, behavior and interaction in practical activity is discussed. Thus, brain-computer interfaces are increasingly used to solve problems in the fields of medicine, education, psychology and behavioral economics. Insight into EEG correlates, neuroadaptive technologies and interpretation of brain signals makes it possible to introduce such scientific applications as *Neurobarometer* (N. V. Galkina, Neurotrend), which is designed to detect the neurophysiological reactions of respondents to assess perception content (incentives) of one kind or another; *My Baby Check* (A. I. Kotyusov, E. V. Suleimanova, Ural NeuroNet Center), a software for comprehensive assessment of the trajectory of development of children in the first year of life based on artificial intelligence; *Smart Clothes for Athletes* (A. E. Khramov, V. B. Kazantsev, Innopolis University), that will help to improve traditional training methods and build personal training schemes.

An interesting, very insightful round-table discussion with scientists and practitioners *Neurotechnologies in Education, Science and Business* was held within the Forum-2020. It united the representatives of such companies as Neurotrend, NeuroNet, SKB-Kontur, Pyaterochka, the Institute of Regional Education, Tochka Bank, NPO Automatics, AMG Media Agency, ANO University 20.35, Examus Project, and Navigator of Continuing Education InLearno. The discussion addressed the issues regarding the application of cognitive research and neurotechnology to solve real-life business problems.

Within the framework of the Forum-2020, new research projects were initiated. For example, the intention of Ural Federal University to participate in the project of the Russian Academy of Sciences *Brain: Health, Intelligence, Innovation* was supported. Ural Federal University alongside project collaborators is ready to initiate research in the program fundamentals aimed at creating an advanced scientific groundwork to study the neural mechanisms of the brain development and functioning, its plasticity, learning and memory, intelligence, consciousness and personality.

It was agreed to create a consortium *Human Well-being in the Face of Demographic Challenges and Digitalization of Society* that will encompass all Forum topics. The purpose of the consortium is to conduct fundamental and applied research in the field of cognitive, social and human sciences taking into account the specific character of the society transformation and regional issues. The consortium members are: UrFU, Psychological Institute of the Russian Academy of Education, Institute of History and Archeology of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, etc.

The International Forums of *Cognitive Neuroscience* strengthens the research potential of the regions, facilitates the development of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural research and enhances the position of Ural Federal University as a research center to study neurophysiological, psychophysiological and neuropsychological predictors of the normative functioning of the cognitive processes of an adult, to determine the mechanisms and technologies for accelerating the assimilation of information, to study the brain and neurocognitive development of normatively developing children and children with special needs.

The Forum is annually attended by up to 300 participants, including more than 50 foreign scientists (from Japan, Sweden, Hungary, Germany, USA, and other countries).

The Forum is facilitated by the support of the Russian Foundation for Basic Research in 2019 and 2020.

Ural Federal University welcomes you to cooperation, active participation in the next Forums and publication in the *Lurian Journal*!

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