This PALO volume constitutes the proceedings of the 20th Asia Pacific Symposium on Intelligent and Evolutionary Systems (IES 2016). The symposium first took place in 1997 in Canberra, and since then, the series has become a prestigious incubator of research ideas, as well as facilitator of research collaborations. The symposium aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from countries of the Asia-Pacific region in the fields of intelligent systems and evolutionary computation to present ongoing work, exchange ideas, and discuss future collaboration. In 2016, IES was held again in Canberra to celebrate its 20th anniversary.

IES 2016 was hosted by The University of New South Wales (UNSW), at its Canberra campus in the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA). It was collocated with two other events: the 24th National Conference of the Australian Society for Operations Research and the Defence Operations Research Symposium. The event included a number of plenary talks, special sessions, oral presentations, and industry workshops for a valuable interaction with researchers and practitioners in the field.

Out of the 51 submissions initially received, 36 were selected to be included in the final proceedings. Each submission was reviewed by 2–4 members from our international program committee.

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