Welcome to the proceedings of the Third International Conference on Cognitive Systems and Information Processing (ICCSIP 2016), which was held in Beijing, the capital of China, during November 19–23, 2016. ICCSIP is the prestigious biennial conference on Cognitive Systems and Information Processing with past events held in Beijing (2012, 2014). Over the past few years, ICCSIP has matured into a well-established series of international conference on cognitive information processing and related fields over the world. Similar to the previous one, ICCSIP 2016 provided an academic forum for the participants to share their new research findings and discuss emerging areas of research. It also established a stimulating environment for the participants to exchange ideas on future trends and opportunities of cognitive information processing research.

Currently, cognitive systems and information processing are applied in an increasing number of research domains such as cognitive sciences and technology, visual cognition and computation, big data and intelligent information processing, bioinformatics and applications. We believe that cognitive systems and information processing will certainly exhibit greater-than-ever advances in the near future. With the aim of promoting the research and technical innovation in relevant fields domestically and internationally, the fundamental objective of ICCSIP is defined as providing a premier forum for researchers and practitioners from academia, industry, and government to share their ideas, research results, and experiences. This year, ICCSIP received 171 submissions, all of which are written in English. After a thorough reviewing process, 59 papers were selected for presentation as full papers, resulting in an acceptance rate of 34.5%. The selected papers included in the proceedings not only address challenging issues in various aspects of cognitive systems and information processing but also showcase contributions from related disciplines that illuminate the state of the art. In addition to the contributed papers, the ICCSIP 2016 technical program included three plenary speeches by C. L. Philip Chen (University of Macau), Hong Cheng (University of Electronic Science and Technology of China), and David Yuan.

We would also like to thank the members of the Advisory Committee for their guidance, the members of the International Program Committee and additional reviewers for reviewing the papers, and members of the Publications Committee for checking the accepted papers in a short period of time. In particular, we are grateful to Springer for publishing the proceedings in the prestigious series of Communications in Computer and Information Science. Moreover, we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to the plenary and panel speakers, session chairs, reviewers, and student volunteers. In addition, there are still many more colleagues, associates, friends, and supporters who helped us in immeasurable ways; we express our sincere gratitude to
them all. Last but not the least, we would like to thank all the speakers and authors as well as the participants for their great contributions that made ICCSIP2016 successful and all the hard work worthwhile.

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