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Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this issue of the International Journal of Secondary Computing and Applications Research (IJSCAR). The five articles gathered here reflect just how wide the reach of student-led computing research has become, spanning mobile sensing and on-device machine learning for at-home physical rehabilitation, reproducible data-engineering pipelines for behavioral survey research, lightweight transformer models for mental health text triage, the cognitive science of active versus passive learning, and lightweight machine learning for IoT intrusion detection.

Taken together, these papers show a maturing research instinct: a willingness to engage seriously with real deployment constraints, not just idealized benchmarks. Several authors built and tested working prototypes on actual hardware, released reproducible software artifacts alongside their write-ups, or ran adversarial and sensitivity checks on their own results rather than reporting a single favorable configuration—exactly the kind of self-scrutiny that distinguishes rigorous research from a class project.

At IJSCAR, our mission remains to provide a platform for students and early-career researchers to share innovative ideas, engage with the broader research community, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge. We are continually inspired by the quality of submissions we receive and by the dedication of young scholars pursuing meaningful and impactful research, and we remain committed to nurturing that curiosity issue after issue.

As Editor-in-Chief, I want to thank our authors for the care they put into this work, their mentors and teachers for the guidance behind the scenes, and our reviewers for the time they gave to strengthening each submission. On behalf of the editorial team, I am also grateful to our readers for their continued support in helping foster a community committed to learning, discovery, and scientific progress.

We hope this issue informs and inspires, and we look forward to sharing the next chapter of student computing research with you soon.

Sincerely,
Maria Hwang
Editor-in-Chief

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