

PRESS RELEASE

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UCY Professor Marios M. Polycarpou Receives the 2016 IEEE Neural Networks Pioneer Award

Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Director of the KIOS Research Center for Intelligent Systems and Networks at the University of Cyprus, Dr. Marios Polycarpou has been awarded the *2016 IEEE Neural Networks Pioneer Award*. According to the award citation, he has been honored for his outstanding research in the field of neural networks, particularly for, *“the pioneering use of neural networks and automatic learning in monitoring and control systems”*. As stated by the Rector of the University of Cyprus, Professor Constantinos Christophides *“Undoubtedly, the whole of the UCY community is proud of Prof. Polycarpou’s achievements, as his innovative work has inspired other researchers in the field, all over the world.”* The prize was awarded to the recipient at the 2016 World Congress on Computational Intelligence, which was held recently in Vancouver, Canada, and attracted more than 1,800 participants from 70 countries.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is the largest professional organization with over 400.000 members worldwide. The IEEE Neural Networks Pioneer Award is given by the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, which is a network of researchers, professionals, practitioners, and students who are interested in nature inspired problem-solving. Artificial neural networks constitute the core part for the further development of intelligent systems and algorithms, being used extensively by companies like Google, Facebook and Microsoft, but also for the promotion of smart applications in cars, buildings and robotic systems.

As the President of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, Prof. Pablo Estevez, noted during the award ceremony: *“Professor M. Polycarpou’s research has had a significant and long-term impact on the field of neural networks, since it has paved the way for designing automated learning systems that allow improvement in real-time for monitoring and control applications.”*

Following a long academic career in the USA, Professor Marios Polycarpou joined the academic staff of the University of Cyprus in 2001 and was the first faculty of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He served as the Chair of the Department for seven years (2001-2008), and since 2008 he is the Director of the KIOS Research Center for Intelligent Systems and Networks, one of the largest research centers at the University. He has participated in more than 60 research projects/grants, funded by several agencies and industry in Europe and the United States, including the prestigious European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant. In 2015, Prof. Polycarpou was awarded the UCY Research Excellence Award, as well as the Cyprus Research Award of the Research Promotion Foundation.

End of Announcement