

data to enable them to have a real competitive advantage. Competitors see that happening, and the result is an arms race involving huge volumes of data and how to exploit it.

This data intensive activity has gone on for longer than the term “big data” has been commonly used. Long enough that there is now a wealth of knowledge about effective ways of operating on and using big data. Long enough that it is timely to take stock in this activity, and to try and understand what works and what does not.

With this in mind, Brian Cooper has brought to the bulletin a collection of “war stories” about how to support, how to mine, and how to exploit huge data volumes to win the marketplace competition. Not surprisingly, authors in this Bulletin issue are drawn from industry. Industrial focus, which I regard as a unique aspect of the Bulletin is hence especially strong in this issue. I want to thank Brian for bringing it to us. I think there is both much to enjoy in the issue, and much to learn.

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Nominations for Chair of TCDE

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The Chair of the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Data Engineering (TCDE) is elected for a two-year period. The mandate of the current Chair, David Lomet, expires at the end of this year and the process of electing a Chair for the period 2013-2014 has begun. A Nominating Committee consisting of Paul Larson and Masaru Kitsuregawa has been struck. The Nominating Committee invites nominations for the position of Chair from all members of the TCDE. To submit a nomination, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee before August 15, 2012.

More information about TCDE can be found at <http://tab.computer.org/tcde/>.

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