

**From the Publisher****THE JOURNAL *HUMAN TECHNOLOGY*: AN ONGOING  
RESOURCE FOR HUMAN-TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH**

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The Agora Center was established in 2002 to provide a platform for interdisciplinary research within the field of human technology. As an independent institute within the University of Jyväskylä, the Agora Center draws together interdisciplinary research teams from a variety of fields, such as information technology, cognitive science, psychology, education, communication, and so on. By establishing international networks and integrating researchers from a variety of countries, the Agora Center team furthers new perspectives on the intersection of humans and technologies. The goal of all of this, then, is to encourage interdisciplinary and intercultural dialogue, cooperation, and collaboration; to encourage and create multiperspective insights and resourcefulness; and to explore creative human-centered solutions to many “wicked problems”: those challenges in life and society that are particularly complex, multifaceted, and require innovative, astute, and productive resolutions.

As our researchers began their interdisciplinary work, we soon found that most journals that focus on a particular field had little interest in the sometimes “messy” reality of interdisciplinary research. So, we decided to forge our solution: *Human Technology: An Interdisciplinary Journal on Humans in ICT Environments*, which was launched in April 2005. Our fully open-access journal has provided a space for the publication of a variety of interesting research topics either as open submission issues or as part of special/themed issues. The papers published in *Human Technology* have emphasized the human side of technology, for example, in providing a better understanding of the challenges and benefits for humans brought about in a highly technological environment, and deeper investigations into the processes and products facilitated by technologies. As a small and growing journal, we are proud of the contribution we have been able to make to multiple fields of scientific inquiry. In a large perspective we see our open-access journal as an important step toward open science.

Now *Human Technology* is in its eighth volume, having published scores of manuscripts. We also welcome a new editor in chief, Professor Päivi Häkkinen, who has contributed to the interdisciplinary fields of human-technology for nearly two decades and has served as a board

member of the Agora Center. During her 3 years at the helm of *Human Technology*, we look toward the enhanced profile of the journal and perhaps new perspectives on scholarly publishing. At this time, I also thank Professor Pertti Saariluoma, the journal's founding editor in chief, for his years of dedication in establishing *Human Technology* as an important resource and vehicle for human-technology researchers around the world.

We, the staff of *Human Technology* and the Agora Center, look forward to many decades of opportunity to contribute to the interdisciplinary fields of human-technology research. We thank those who have published and edited issues for our journal, who have served on our editorial board, and the academics and researchers around the world who have provided their time and expertise as reviewers. And we encourage our readers to participate with us—through manuscript submissions, reviews, and special issues—to help *Human Technology* continue and grow as an asset in scholarly research.

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