We are delighted to invite you to submit your research articles to the Annual International Conference on Biologically Inspired Cognitive Architectures — Eighth Meeting of the BICA Society (BICA 2017: bica2017.bicasociety.org), now held together with the second edition of the First International Early Research Career Enhancement School on Biologically Inspired Cognitive Architectures (FIERCES on BICA 2017). Both meetings are co-organized by BICA Society, ICIS NRNU MEPhI, and RAAI, with the support of RSF. As in every year, BICA 2017 will provide exceptional opportunities for scientific encounters and exchange of ideas in artificial intelligence and neuro- and cognitive sciences, as well as being a delightful event.

WHEN: August 1-5, 2017
SUBMISSION: by March 13
NOTIFICATION: by March 29
EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION (by April 1st):
- $350 for BICA 2017 (August 1-3),
- $250 for FIERCES 2017 (August 3-5),
- $450 for both (August 1-5 + excursions on August 6).

A ~50% discount on hotel room booking is available to early registrants.

Topics of the conference broadly cover the fields of artificial intelligence, cognitive science, and neuroscience. Examples include:
- cybersecurity,
- deep learning and big data,
- cognitive robotics,
- affective computing,
- narrative reasoning,
- active learning,
- computational creativity,
- personal assistants,
- tests and metrics for human-level AI, and more. The spotlight will be determined by your submissions.

Among the speakers we expect to see Paul Verschure, Mike Sellers, David Vernon, Antonio Chella, Olivier Georgeon, Antonio Lieto, Junichi Takeno, Kate Jeffery, Valery Tarassoff, Konstantin Anokhin, Gennady Osipov, and many others. Our fabulous social-cultural agenda will include several memorable banquets - on a boat on the Moscow river, on the top of the Ostankinskaya Tower, and more.

PUBLICATION VENUES (tell us if you find any better in other conferences):

- A special volume of Elsevier’s Procedia Computer Science (an Open Access journal indexed in Web of Science and Scopus);
- A special volume of Springer’s Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing (also indexed in Web of Science and Scopus);
- BICA (an Elsevier journal with a JCR Impact Factor, indexed in Web of Science and Scopus).

We are looking forward to seeing you at this memorable event in Moscow in August,

-- Alexei Samsonovich and Valentin V. Klimov, Organizing Committee Chairs