**Intelligent Systems Reference Library 196** 

Anthony Lewis Brooks · Sheryl Brahman · Bill Kapralos · Amy Nakajima · Jane Tyerman · Lakhmi C. Jain *Editors* 

# Recent Advances in Technologies for Inclusive Well-Being

Virtual Patients, Gamification and Simulation



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Volume 196

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## Recent Advances in Technologies for Inclusive Well-Being

Virtual Patients, Gamification and Simulation



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### **Preface**

As co-editors, we welcome you as readers of this volume, in anticipation that you will enjoy the contents and hopefully inform other potential readers of the scope of knowledge across fields associated to 'Technologies for Inclusive Well-Being' that are offered herein.

We, the co-editors, are located at different corners of the globe, from Canada, Australia, UK, USA, and even little Denmark—now waving the flag for the European Union contribution after Brexit! While we work in different specific disciplines and industries, we have a common ground in being involved in education, research, and practices associated with health care and technologies targeting human 'Well-Being'. Thus, aligned, we believe a richness of knowledge differences alongside motivational inspirations reside within the works presented in (and between) the pages you have in front of you that we anticipate can inform and inspire, stimulate and even surprise—and we are together, proud to be a part of producing this contribution to the field.

This book on 'Technologies for Inclusive Well-Being' follows on from associated publications, i.e. the 2014 [1] and 2017 [2] volumes, also edited by members of our current editing team. The decision to edit another volume came about through amassed positive responses attributed to the earlier publications as indicated by the near 30,000 downloads at the time of writing (Spring 2020), and we anticipate similar numbers of this volume. Inclusive well-being would seem a hot and growing topic. Associated technologies to well-being continue to advance alongside adoptions in applied practices; as reflected by international conferences around the world, it was clear the demand to expand should include topics as per title herein. In line with this, in this edition, the co-editors team has grown to six, and we are pleased to welcome Dr. Jane Tyerman and Dr. Amy Nakajima, both from Ottawa, Canada (please see the 'About the Editors' material for more details).

This Preface follows the 2017 volume in being titled *Recent Advances in Technologies for Inclusive Well-Being*. The 2020 sub-title informs on wider subjects of virtual patients, gamification, modelling, and simulation, thus building upon the earlier foci of 'Wearables, Virtual Interactive Spaces (VIS)/Virtual Reality, Authoring tools, and Games (Serious/Gamification)' in the 2017 volume that, in

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turn, built upon the 2014 foci of Serious Games, Alternative Realities, and Play Therapy.

The vision behind realising incremental volumes was to ongoingly achieve a meaningful contribution for wide readerships across scholars and students; practitioners, administrators, and leaders; across industries and disciplines associated with digital wellness aligned to the evolution in health industry [3]. In achieving such publications, it is acknowledged how it would not have been possible without those authors whose contributions have been shared to the best of our abilities as editors. This, of course, means that behind the scenes, there are many people involved beyond those mentioned herein—from Springer staff who have supported and made tangible this and the other volumes, to the numerous international scholar peer reviewers who gave time to read, reflect, and critique submissions over a long period offering their wise comments to support optimising each text.

This publication covers wide ground, as introduced in the first chapter. Authors covering a gamut of disciplines come together under the inclusive well-being theme, and it is anticipated that there is something for everyone, be they academics, students, or an otherwise interested party. The main aim of the book is to disseminate this growing field through a combined effort to inform, educate, evoke—or even provoke, at least in thought—responses and discussions. While not the sole purpose, the editors, along with the authors, believe it important to bring such work presented out from behind the walls of establishments into the public sphere, so as to impact from a societal level.

The challenge of bringing together a collection of seminal work relating to technology is that it is subject to encroachment—things move fast. We have been aware of this challenge and need to publish a contemporary volume within a schedule, considering the prerequisite for up-to-date(ness) of presented research. The initial timeline had to be extended due to counterbalancing to the editors' different time zones, work and family commitments, and busy lives and distractions of the real world—for this delay, we apologise to authors. However, in stating this, we believe that the extension has resulted in an even stronger contribution, realised in a form to credit all involved.

Acknowledgements are given to all authors for their submitted works and patience and understanding in the editorial team's challenges to realise what is anticipated to be an impactful volume. We thank Springer's publishing team for their input to realise the volume. The editors thank their own families whose tolerance in supporting us in tackling such endeavours to publish is often tested; we are indebted for their support. The last acknowledgement is given to you, the reader, whom we thank for coming onboard from your specific individual perspective; in thanking you for the interest in the work, we anticipate your curiosity being stimulated by individual texts so as to read, not only chapters labelled in line with your position but also to stray and explore chapters not aligned to your discipline. In line with this latter statement, we offer no suggestions about how to read the book.

It is apt to mention at this time that this volume took longer than expected because of various delaying issues beyond our control, and accordingly, we apologise to the early submitting authors who have been patient in their wait to see the Preface vii

realised publication. Also, the final stages of the volume completion happened at an unprecedented time in the world—after devastating fires in the Australian region, a wider invisible global threat to life and daily activities as we knew it rose out of China in the form of the COVID-19 pandemic. The authors of the contents of this volume mostly contributed prior to the pandemic. Few, upon hearing of the initial incursions in Asia, could have forecast its rampant impact that has devastated societies, communities, and families across nations globally, with much loss of life, traumatic experiences, and irreparable damage to infrastructures and economies. Our hearts and thoughts go out to those affected in whatever situation they find themselves, and we wish the very best to all. Many people at this time are comparing, wonderingly, their life before the onset of COVID-19, and their life as lived experience during this pandemic, and they are asking themselves and others what the world will be like, following the cessations of restrictions after effective vaccines and medicines are invented as they must be. The future is in balance as latest news channels suggest the coming of a second wave, as deaths and cases again rise in some countries. Trepidation and anxiety are pervasive, as healthcare workers and those caring for the aged—doctors, nurses, carers, staff, and all others involved engage daily at the front-line, battling on behalf of the human race and each individual affected. These heroes should never be forgotten! We extend our thanks to all who are involved in Well-Being issues in this regard and alongside others. Humbly, the co-editors ask: What will human Well-Being entail following the pandemic? How will future societies govern for Well-Being? In what form will future 'Advances in Technologies for Inclusive Well-Being' take? ... and more. For now, we pray that to minimise impact, we all respect physical distancing, as advised by experts, we all maintain the highest level of hygiene, and if any signs are suspected, to self-quarantine. In so doing, we all give respect and love and support to others through this challenge for humankind. And ... future generations ahead, there should be stories passed down of the heroes in health services worldwide that battled through this pandemic and continue to fight saving lives and caring for others. Their sacrifices should not be forgotten in how they promoted inclusive Well-Being in whatever form and shape that may have taken.

In finally closing we, the editors, extend our warmest regards and encourage you to explore the texts herein, whetting your appetite, and to then dive further into the body of work, and possibly being stimulated to even visit the earlier volume—enjoy!

From us all, we wish you optimal well-being, stay safe and keep healthy.

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Amy Nakajima
Jane Tyerman
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### Chapter 21

# Interactive Multimedia: A Take on Traditional Day of the Dead Altars



Ramón Iván Barraza Castillo, Alejandra Lucía De la Torre Rodríguez, Rogelio Baquier Orozco, Gloria Olivia Rodríguez Garay, Silvia Husted Ramos, and Martha Patricia Álvarez Chávez

Abstract This chapter presents the creation of a traditional and technologically enhanced Mexican Day of the Dead altar. The authors offer a detailed view of the entire process, from the conception of the idea, identification and classification of narrative elements, construction of the offering based on an interactive multimedia user experience model, the inner workings as well as the construction, installation, and exhibition. The altar was presented and evaluated during a mass public event in the Mexican town of Juárez, during a celebration of the Day of the Dead. The idea behind this project is to enhance this century-old tradition with a non-invasive approach to technology to infuse a non-linear narrative experience that connects with the user and promotes spiritual well-being.

**Keywords** Day of the dead celebration · Arduino · Interactive multimedia · Non-linear narrative · User experience · User interface

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