Foreword

Dear readers,

The international conference DigiHealthDayS has become a renowned global forum for education, research, innovation, and networking in Digital Health, held annually. Following each conference, a collection of papers is published as a special proceedings issue under the auspices of the Journal of Applied Interdisciplinary Research (JAIR), with this year marking its fourth edition.

We are delighted to present this special issue, running parallel to our regular annual issue. It gathers selected contributions from the conference, which was founded and is led by Prof. Dr. Georgi Chaltikyan, Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Digital Health at the European Campus Rottal-Inn, Studiengangsleiter of the Master of Digital Health, and founder of the DigiHealthDay series. In February 2025, the WHO Regional Office for Europe designated the European Campus Rottal-Inn as the German WHO Collaborating Centre for Digital Health, and to date the only such centre dedicated to Digital Health Education, so it is a genuine pleasure to bring this collaboration to print.

For this special issue, the guest editor and the conference organizing team were responsible for selecting the contributions and for peer review, assuring their academic quality. The peer review was therefore not double-blind.

The Journal of Applied Interdisciplinary Research (JAIR) is an academic journal that aims to provide a current and international overview of interdisciplinary research carried out in an applied manner. As this is a growing field, it warrants a dedicated journal of its own. With the boundaries between academic disciplines increasingly overlapping, we are glad to give researchers an opportunity to publish their interdisciplinary work in a journal devoted to advancing this field and committed to the exchange of ideas across disciplines.

Since this year, JAIR has been listed in the Diamond Discovery Hub (DDH), reflecting our continued belief in open science and open access. The DDH is a registry of scholar-led open access journals. To become a member, a journal must fulfil the following Diamond criteria: persistent identification, scholarly standing, open access under open licenses, no fees, openness to all authors, and community ownership.

The JAIR is generally published annually as an online-only issue. The present print version is a reprint of the online issue; please cite the articles as published online, indicating their respective DOI.

With warm regards,
Your JAIR editors,

Prof. Dr. Michelle J. Cummings-Koether Dr. Kristin Seffer