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His research focuses on Digital Image Processing and Computer Vision, including object detection and tracking, activity and expression recognition, interactive displays, processing on mobile platforms, and hardware acceleration of imaging algorithms. He has been the primary thesis advisor for more than 30 graduate students in Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Ph.D. in Imaging Science and Ph.D. in Computing and Information Sciences. His research has generated over 100 publications and 11 patents. Dr. Savakis is ABET program evaluator for the accreditation of Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering programs. He has served as Chair of the IEEE Signal Processing Society, Rochester Chapter, Treasurer of the IEEE Rochester Section and was co-founding member of the IEEE Western New York Image Processing Workshop. Dr. Savakis received the IEEE Third Millennium Medal (2000), the NYSTAR Technology Transfer Award for Economic Impact (2006) and the IEEE Region 1 Outstanding Teaching Award for contributions to education in Computer Engineering and Multimedia (2011).