

Welcome Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Editorial

With this first issue, I am pleased to announce the launch of the *Central European Journal of Engineering (CEJE)*, and extend a warm welcome to the readers and the authors. I like to express my sincere gratitude to our managing editor, Dr. Anna Kowalska for her diligent work; to the editors, and the advisory editorial board for their sustained support. A special thanks go to the reviewers of the papers whose advice and recommendations insured the high quality of the papers in this issue.

We are witnessing sea changes in both the scientific publications and the engineering fields. Scholarly electronic journals and publications are becoming a viable and easy alternative to printed ones. In addition to dedicated electronic readers, multifunction devices like the smart phones, the Apple iPad and the Samsung Galaxy represent a new class of tools that merges the utility of electronic readers with web browsing, and a wide variety of other applications.

The role and scope of the engineering profession are transforming rapidly. Both what engineers do, and how they do it, are experiencing profound changes due to the need to attend to global issues, expansion of the engineering disciplines beyond traditional boundaries, and the accelerating pace of technological innovations in engineering and related areas, such as computing, communication, mobile, robotics and interactive technologies. Moreover, the present decade will witness a move to the post-information age, "*the Intelligence Era*" – a transformative change, and a disruptive era, with people living and working in digital environment, surrounded by intelligent tools, intercommunicating devices, and robotic networks, which are seamlessly integrated, and embedded into the environment. Novel forms of interaction with the environment (including, brain-based and gestural interfaces) will become widely available. Engineers will be required to perform increasingly more complex and imaginative tasks of synthesis and creativity.

Our quarterly online journal is a step towards responding to the above challenges by serving as a premier

source on innovations and future directions of engineering; an online digital environment for rapid, global dissemination of emerging and novel cross-disciplinary ideas among researchers; and a platform for exploring the effectiveness of using richly visual interfaces, including multimedia elements, for enhancing the informational content of technical articles. The journal will publish articles in five categories: vision and future systems, reviews, research, communications, and short / rapid communications. Through SpringerLink, we will insure the speedy publication of accepted articles, even before their inclusion in a complete issue of the journal, in addition to the state-of-technology benefits of electronic journals .

The ten articles in the first issue cover a diverse scope and a broad spectrum of topics. The first four papers are vision and future systems articles covering Future of Computer Aided Engineering (CAE), Nanosatellites, Cave Virtual Reality facility, and Space Architecture. The fifth paper is a review article on computational models for laminated composite and sandwich panels. The succeeding three papers are research articles dealing with prediction of moisture content of natural gases (energy and fuels), strength of FRP concrete joints (Civil Engineering), and strength and permeability of concrete containing rice husk ash (construction and building technology). The last two papers are communication articles on model for p-n junction – semiconductor devices (Electrical and Electronic Engineering); and 3D Shape description algorithm (Imaging Science and Photographic technology). I like to thank the authors of the papers for enabling us to launch the journal.

I look forward to a very successful and stimulating journal, and I welcome any suggestions for improving the quality and the usefulness of the journal.

Hampton, Virginia, March 2011

Ahmed K. Noor

Editor in chief

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