Dear Readers

Bob Kleinmann

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Dear Readers,

Mea culpa! Yes, it is possible to have too much of a good thing. With good intentions, I committed to having this be a special issue, consisting of invited papers by the authors of the best papers from our IMWA Congress in Aachen, based on the same research reported there. Unfortunately, between a surge of 19 other manuscripts that arrived early in 2012 (a good thing), recruiting and watching over two new associate editors (another good thing) who were brought on to handle the additional manuscripts (welcome aboard, Lucas Moore and Len Murray!), an increasing workload associated with my new position at CH2M Hill (still another good thing), and 2 weeks spent in Morocco (a very good thing, indeed), I did not properly watch over the process of nagging the authors, reviewers, and editors. As a result, the first three of the papers in this issue are all that were ready for printing at the end of April. Rather than delay publication of these fine papers, we are publishing these three papers now and will publish the rest when they are ready. While we are disappointed that our hopes for a special issue did not come to pass, I believe that you will find these three, along with the other fine papers that we filled the rest of this issue with, very interesting; rest assured that the others will be published when they are ready.

So, in these pages, we have excellent papers on the use of bioreactors for removal of zinc, predicting long-term leaching behavior, 3-D modeling of saline groundwater in a flooded salt mine, density stratification in a meromictic lake, assessing water supply options for a mine site in Turkey, and, predicting potential water in-rush events (an important mine safety issue). Finally, we close the issue with an IMWA Insights piece on the growing need for mine water management expertise and the pending shortage of adequately trained personnel, especially in areas

such as Australia where mining is booming. Truly, something for everyone!

This brings us to our next topic of conversation: by the time that you read this, it will be June and time to complete preparations for your trip to Western Australia for the next IMWA conference. The conference organizers have done a great job and it is high time for you to register, if you have not done so already. It is easy to do; just go to: <http://www.imwa2012.info/>, read about the great papers and field trips that have been organized, and follow the instructions on how to register. What a great opportunity to visit a part of the world that you have never been to before! My wife and I are planning to take 3 weeks and build a vacation around the conference and I encourage all of you to consider taking at least some time off while you are down there to see the wonderful sights and fascinating wildlife.

Regards to all of you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Kleinmann".

Bob Kleinmann, Editor-in-Chief

B. Kleinmann (✉)
Pittsburgh, PA, USA
e-mail: robert.kleinmann@gmail.com