Editorial

Edmund Burke · Michael Pinedo · Steef van de Velde

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During this last year, we passed our tenth anniversary of publication. The very first issue of the Journal appeared in June 1998. Ten years on, we are happy to report that the Journal of Scheduling is healthy and flourishing. In Volume 11, we had at least six articles in each issue. In comparison, in the first and second volumes, most issues had just three papers. Since we moved to the electronic Editorial Manager system in 2005, we have received over 150 submitted articles a year. Since that move, we have also seen an acceptance rate of about 18% (based on all of the papers upon which we have made a definite decision), i.e., we have 53 accepted papers from the 296 that have been subject to a decision. Our list of accepted papers is very healthy in spite of the high rejection rate of about 82%. Indeed, at the time of writing, we have 21 accepted papers available on the internet in Springer's 'Online First' list of forthcoming papers. The quality of our journal is clear from our ISI impact factor which currently stands at 1.00. This compares very favorably to other focused journals such as ours. In fact, it even

compares favorably to other journals with a more general orientation.

The scheduling areas we cover are very diverse and wide ranging. In Volume 11, we had an excellent collection of papers focusing on scheduling applications, for example, on optimal scheduling in peer-to-peer file dissemination, on scheduling in the airline industry, and on exact train pathing. We also had, of course, a wide selection of papers on theoretical aspects of scheduling, such as preemptive open shop scheduling with multiprocessors, the scheduling of jobs with equal processing times and time windows on identical parallel machines.

Our journal is truly an international journal. Our editorial board is geographically diverse and the papers that are being submitted are coming from a broad range of countries from all over the world. We welcome this international diversity. Indeed, our aim is to maintain the journal as one of the leading international publication outlets and for it to be recognized as such across the world.

Our journal regularly has special issues dedicated to papers that have been presented at one of the many scheduling conferences held somewhere in the world. We will continue to be open to the idea of our journal serving as an outlet for selected papers from the various conferences that are being organized on a regular basis. We have also had several special issues which are focused around particular research themes. The scope of the journal cuts across all aspects of scheduling research. We are very keen to remain open to all the research communities (across a wide variety of disciplines) which engage with scheduling research. Each of these communities has its own orientation and its own focus on scheduling and each has its own adherents. The goal of our journal is to remain an open haven for each one of these communities and indeed, to act as a mechanism for

E. Burke (✉)
Automated Scheduling, Optimisation & Planning Group, School
of Computer Science & Information Technology, The University
of Nottingham, Jubilee Campus, Nottingham NG8 1BB, UK
e-mail: ekb@cs.nott.ac.uk

M. Pinedo
Operations Management Area, Stern School of Business,
New York University, 40th West 4th Street, New York, NY 10012,
USA
e-mail: mpinedo@stern.nyu.edu

S. van de Velde
Department of Decision and Information Sciences, Rotterdam
School of Management, Erasmus University, P.O. Box 1738,
3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands
e-mail: S.Velde@fac.fbk.eur.nl

interaction across these communities. We originally established the Journal as an inter-disciplinary publication outlet and the goal of the editorial team is very much for it to stay this way. The aim of the journal is to be an international forum for high quality scheduling research across theory and applications and across disciplinary divides. Our over-riding criterion for acceptance is the quality of the science.

We would like to close this editorial by thanking all the people who have helped us to make the journal such a success. The staff at Springer provides an extremely high level of support. We would like to thank them all, particularly, Concetta Seminara-Kennedy, Carolyn Ford, Paulo Montes, and Candace Rosa. We would like to say a very special thank

you to Gary Folven who retired this year. Gary was instrumental in our move to Springer and he was always there to provide sound advice and help. We will miss him. In addition, we would like to express our gratitude to Orinta Skačkauskienė for her professional and thorough handling of the typesetting and copyediting. We are also grateful to our Editorial Assistant, Emma-Jayne Dann and to our dedicated team of Associate Editors. Their hard work represents one of the major contributions to the journal's success. Finally, we would like to say a special thank you to our authors and readers—without you the journal would not exist.

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