



From the Editor-in-Chief

Kimon P. Valavanis¹

Received: 26 August 2019 / Accepted: 26 August 2019 / Published online: 4 September 2019
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Dear Colleagues:

Happy New Year with health, happiness and prosperity. Let us all hope that 2020 will be a year second to none – we need such optimism!

As far as JINT is concerned, 2020 marks a new start. We have a fresh Editorial Board, which is a combination of previous members and new ones. Thank you to all of you for your contributions and support, and welcome to the new members, we all look forward to working with you.

We have updated the Aims and Scope of our journal to reflect new advances in robotics, automation and unmanned systems. Our aim is to capitalize on ‘intelligence’ and ‘autonomy’ since JINT has been the first journal with the word ‘intelligent’ in its title; autonomy is the natural aftermath, and we certainly believe we have a lot to offer to our readership by publishing top-notch papers discussing autonomy and autonomous functionality of systems.

We have also set a major goal for 2020: to publish all accepted papers in the queue, so that by the beginning of 2021 (January), papers will actually be published (not just online first) shortly after they are accepted and received in final form. We believe that is the right thing to do and that this shows respect to the authors. Needless to say, the review process will continue to be very meticulous. Along these lines, I would like to repeat that publishers, and Springer, follow strict rules when it comes to archive contributed papers. Overlap

with previously published research must be about 20%; this is obviously not an ‘exact science’, and authors should include a justification letter when this threshold is not met. All submitted papers are automatically checked using iThenticate, and authors are encouraged to run such a check before actual submission. This avoids review delays and ‘Revise before Review’ recommendations. However, it is clear that the aim is to submit original work.

We are looking forward to a productive year. We will keep on informing you about what we do to improve JINT. We want your feedback, let us know what we can do to help and make JINT even better.

Enjoy the issue.



Kimon P. Valavanis
Editor-in-Chief

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations

✉ Kimon P. Valavanis
Kimon.Valavanis@du.edu

¹ D. F. Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science,
University of Denver, Denver, CO 80208, USA