From the Editor-in-Chief

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Dear Colleagues,

As you already know, JINT has switched to a Continuous Article Publishing (CAP) journal. Albeit challenges with this transition, the January and February issues have been published in time. We have identified a few glitches, though, and we expect a much smoother process from now on. Keep the faith in us, we will do better.

Next, I would like to report a major milestone that was reached in 2020: JINT received more than 1145 contributed and special issue papers, 400+ more compared to 2019. Thank you all for your contributions. This number was reached because of you!

You obviously realize that the road to excellence is still long. Not only we want to sustain this number, but also increase it without any sacrifice in quality. Again, you play a pivotal role, and we count on you, the authors, the reviewers, the handling editors, everybody involved with JINT.

Moreover, I would like to re-iterate some “unwritten rules”, which, however, are followed by every publisher, and we certainly enforce them during the review process: i.) Contributed papers should have about 20% overlap with previously published work and they should include clear statements of original-

ity, novelty, and contributions; ii.) Topical Collection papers (the new name for special issue papers) that also include enhanced versions of accepted papers published in conferences, may have about 30% overlap with previously published work – they still need to include clear statements of originality, novelty, and contributions. In addition, we transition gradually to a required three reviews per paper, this will be enforced continuously.

In summary, we try to do our best, to serve you in the best way possible. We welcome your input, comments, and feedback. Enjoy the issue.

Kimon P. Valavanis
Editor-in-Chief

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