

## Comments from the departing editor

**Panos M. Pardalos**

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At the international mathematical programming symposium at MIT in August 1985, I met for the first time Reiner Horst and Hoang Tuy. At the symposium I attended many interesting talks on Global Optimization. It was clear that many researchers from diverse disciplines were working on all aspects of global optimization: theory, algorithms, and applications. During the days of the symposium it was the first time we discussed with Reiner the idea of a journal devoted to Global Optimization. At the next international mathematical programming symposium at Tokyo in 1998 we made the final decision to start the journal after having discussions with many people including P. Hansen, Y. Evtushenko, H. Tuy, and J.B. Rosen.

Meanwhile, the two books appeared:

P.M. Pardalos and J.B. Rosen, “*Constrained global optimization: Algorithms and applications*,” Springer 1987

and

R. Host and H. Tuy, “*Global Optimization (Deterministic Approaches)*,” Springer 1990.

Following the publication of these two books, literary hundreds of books have been published in several areas of nonconvex optimization and their applications.

The first issue of the *Journal of Global Optimization* (JOGO) was published in January 1991 with Reiner Horst as the first Editor-in-Chief. In January 1993 I joined Reiner as co-editor and since January 1994 I started my solo tenure as the Editor-in-Chief of JOGO. During the next two decades the journal has grown dramatically. It started with four issues per year and is now published monthly. JOGO was initially published by Kluwer Academic Publishers with David Larnar and John Martindale (both publishers at Kluwer). With the merge of Kluwer and Springer I continued to work with John Martindale and after John retired I started working with Vaishali Damle. I must say that during the first years of the journal, the enthusiastic support of John Martindale greatly influenced the success of JOGO and several activities of the global optimization society (including the establishment of several conferences and book series).

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In looking back on my editorship, I feel that it has been a great honor and a challenge to serve the global optimization community. I did my best to apply the highest standards in the processing of papers and always looked for the highest quality of published work.

With the increased number of papers submitted, we see more often problems related to plagiarism, simultaneous submissions, data falsifications, and issues that relate to conflicts of interest. Unfortunately the editor, with the help of the publisher, has to face these problems and make an effort to prevent them from happening. Many cases of plagiarism can be detected by existing software from the publisher. However, overall, the integrity, and high academic standards of the majority of authors is world class.

During my term as Editor-in-Chief of JOGO I have extended its scope and it now covers areas in multicriteria optimization, variational problems, and generalized convexity. In addition, book reviews appear. The current status of JOGO is excellent. However, we need to aggressively pursue new results and areas of practical applications with a significant impact. We had several special issues that focused on a particular theme of timing interest. Since 2011, I also established the **Best Paper Award for the Journal of Global Optimization** supported by Springer.

Departing after two decades as an editor of JOGO there are many people I would like to thank. First of all my friend and colleague Reiner Horst who passed away on June 20, 2010. With Reiner, we became close friends since our first meeting in 1985. We worked together on several books and papers and we made important decisions together regarding the first years of the journal. His influence on the journal was great and he will always remain in my memory. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with all editors, authors, readers, and referees. Because of these interactions I made many friends around the world and realized that science has no boundaries, race, or age. I would like to thank again John Martindale who was an excellent publisher, a friend and an advisor. Although John has retired, we still keep in touch and he always asks me about JOGO and several of its editors and authors. The point I want to make is that JOGO was not only an important highlight of my professional development but also very important in my personal life. Finally, I would like to thank the staff of Springer and in particular Vaishali Damle for their efficiency and professional help.

I look forward to seeing the continuing success, expansion and growth of the journal and I will continue to offer my support to Sergiy Butenko, the new Editor-in-Chief of JOGO.