Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Dear Fellow Authors, Readers and Reviewers:

Let me begin by wishing all of you happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Another rewarding year for the International Journal of Mechanics and Materials in Design (MAMD) has just passed, and we are entering a new year. This editorial is a reflective of the progress made this past year and the plans for 2020.

Reiterating, MAMD is an international peer reviewed journal that publishes high-impact research contributions that are highly innovative and transformative with focus on the rapidly changing fields of mechanics and materials and their applications in engineering design. The journal provides a forum for the dissemination of cutting-edge research in all fields of applied and experimental mechanics and engineered materials, and strives to report the most recent advances in these important fields. The coverage of MAMD has been extended to feature the following main headings:

- Multiscale Modeling at Varied Length Scale,
- Fluid–Solid Interaction,
- Smart Materials and Adaptive Structures,
- Constitutive Behaviour of Solids,
- Impact Mechanics and Crashworthiness,

- Fracture, Damage Characterization and Failure Analysis, and
- Experimental Techniques at Varied Length Scales.

The journal features a distinguished Editorial Board, which brings together a team of highly experienced specialists in all aspects of mechanics and materials. In addition to the advice and support provided by them, I have been ably assisted by two Associate Editors for the past year: Professor Chuanzeng Zhang of the University of Siegen (Germany) and Professor Mario Guagliano of Politecnico di Milano (Italy). I take this opportunity to thank them most sincerely for their unlimited support, timely processing of the manuscripts and for guiding the journal to greater heights. Undoubtedly, the success of MAMD is attributed to our talented authors, their contributions and our expert reviewers.

Last year, we have attracted a very large number of excellent and highly original contributions. Unfortunately, the Editors were faced, though much less in frequency, with the same unethical challenges of 2019 that involved multiple submissions of an article to different journals, excessively unjustified addition of authors and/or changing the order of authors of an article immediately following its acceptance. Another challenge is the unacceptable practice of a number of reviewers, who use their review status to enlist many of their publications with the dishonest intention of increasing their citation index. To ensure the integrity

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of MAMD and uphold our service to the community, the Editors continue to black list those authors and reviewers and share their names with other journals.

Please allow me now to share with you some of the changes that will take place in 2020. In the past, MAMD only considered the publication of original full-length research papers. Effective immediately, and reiterating what I stated in 2019, the journal will accept review papers, notes and letters to Editor, short communications, and comments on published articles. I encourage all to take advantage of this expansion. It is also our duties as the editorial team to endeavor to process your manuscripts fairly and promptly to ensure the viability of your work and the spread/transfer of

knowledge in a timely fashion. Additionally, all submissions will now provide highlights of their work as well as testify that the work is original and has neither been submitted nor published elsewhere. Furthermore, authors must strictly adhere to the format of the journal.

Lastly, I consider it an honor to be the Editor-in-Chief of MAMD, and with my team of highly qualified and motivated editors, we look forward to serving you and making MAMD your journal of choice.

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