EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

It is time again to update you on some recent developments with the *Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance* (JMEP).

Changes have been made to the JMEP Editorial Team structure for improved performance and turn-around time. As both the number of submissions per year and the number of accepted manuscripts per year have doubled over the last decade, the need for a second editor has become more obvious.

I am pleased to announce that Bill Frazier has agreed to step into this new position as editor, building on his valued years of experience as an associate editor. Bill will join me in sharing the editorial work as both of us will be making final decisions on manuscripts and assigning associate editors to expedite manuscript handling and decision processes.

Bill needs no introduction to ASM members and JMEP's customary readers and authors. To others: Bill is a former president and trustee of ASM, and recently retired as a U.S. Navy executive and chief scientist with military equivalent rank of admiral. He brings a very broad and diverse set of scientific, technical, managerial, and administrative skills to his new role as an editor. We are honored that Bill has accepted our invitation to fill this challenging position for the journal as it continues its path forward.

In the meantime, the associate editor terms of PR Subramanian and Jeff Waldman officially ended at the close of 2019. I am thankful to both PR and Jeff for their vital contribution over the last several years to the growth of JMEP. We shall fill the vacancies left by PR and Jeff's departure with two dedicated and qualified individuals from among our reviewers, former guest editors, and others with proven performance. We anticipate making an announcement of new appointees later this year.

We are fortunate to enjoy the professionalism, dedication, and hard work of our current associate editors: Omar Es-Said of Loyola Marymount University, Elvin Beach of The Ohio State University, and Sergiy Kalnaus of Oak Ridge National Laboratory. They provide outstanding support as associate editors by handling large numbers of manuscripts and providing valuable recommendations on each submission.

I wish to thank Mary Anne Fleming, ASM's senior content developer and Scott Henry, senior content engineer, for their sound counsel and wonderful support. Their guidance and help are always valued and appreciated. Thanks are also due to ASM's Kate Doman, content developer; Emily Glorioso, administrator; and Vincent Katona, production coordinator; as well as to Anita Lekhwani, executive editor, Materials Science and Engineering Journals, Springer Nature, for the support they provide. I am also thankful to the executive leadership team of the JMEP committee and the committee members for their contribution.

About eight years ago, the JMEP committee internally launched new initiatives to strategically position JMEP for continued future growth. One such initiative had established two subgroups—the Scope and Standardization Sub-Group, currently led by John Tartaglia of Element Materials Technology, and the Quality Monitoring Sub-Group, currently led by Andrew Gyekenyesi of Ohio Aerospace Institute. The subgroups provide vital input to the committee through task-based projects that lead to actionable recommendations for improvement and statistical metrics and methodologies to monitor the quality of papers. Among the changes introduced last year, was the journal description explaining that JMEP encourages papers that solve current, contemporary issues that will reflect archival significance and enduring solutions rather than just 'day-to-day' challenges. The revised description is readily visible to our readers on the journal's homepage. I wanted to bring this to your attention, dear reader, to encourage you to consider submitting manuscripts with full awareness of JMEP's expanded scope.

JMEP is entering an extraordinary period of growth as well as enhanced significance and reputation. We look forward to your support to ensure continued development of the journal.

Best wishes!

Rajiv Asthana

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