

# Guest Editorial

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It is our honour and privilege to be invited to edit this special issue on Applications of Spreadsheets in Engineering Education. This provides us an invaluable opportunity to interact with the authors and reviewers. In this editorial, first and foremost, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the authors and reviewers, whose contribution and support are most important. The encouragement and assistance of the chief editor, Professor Michael Wald, is much appreciated. The response to this special issue was overwhelming. We had 31 abstracts submitted initially and finally accepted 13 articles in final form. The task was daunting but with much joy and satisfaction.

Spreadsheets have been applied in engineering education for quite some time, despite the fact that they were not originally developed for this purpose. Publications in this field have consistently appeared in the literature. The popularity of using spreadsheets in engineering education is primarily due to the suitability of its many features like cell structure, mathematics, graphics and programming capabilities in various engineering problems in education. The continuous improvements in these spreadsheet features, together with the low cost, availability and ease of use of the spreadsheets will further enhance their value in engineering education. The purpose of this special issue is to bring together a wide spectrum of such spreadsheet applications.

In this special issue, readers will find different ways of using spreadsheets in various areas of engineering education. The applications include environmental engineering, wavelet signal processing, chemical process design and analysis, requirements engineering, electromagnetic education, non-supervised assessment systems, simulation analysis, computational fluid dynamics and heat transfer. The two review articles should provide some insight into the role of spreadsheets in different engineering disciplines. Some authors reported adoption of their spreadsheet approach in teaching and have received good responses from students. We hope that this special issue will foster the exchange of experiences and create some impact of the work of researchers in related areas as well as awareness for those who may be new to this area.

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