

Editorial

This year marks the 30th year of the publication of the International Journal of Engineering Education. The journal was established by Prof. Dr. Michael Wald in the year 1985. It appeared first under the name: The International Journal of Applied Engineering Education; shortly after, the name was modified to the current one.

Michael passed away in 2008. He was a unique individual with an active and eventful life. He was particularly interested in serving the engineering community and the journal was a vehicle towards that goal. Michael dedicated much time and effort to the Journal; it was constantly in his thoughts. Michael was an inspiration to those who knew him and he is indeed very much missed.

In the editorial of the first issue, Michael wrote: “The aim of the journal is to become an international forum and source of reference on engineering education. . . . The journal will foster the exchange of ideas between engineering education institutions on an international basis”. These objectives were achieved since inception and it was Dr. Wald’s hope that this philosophy would continue to serve engineering educators for years to come. The Journal remains an independent, not-for-profit publication dedicated to serve the engineering education community and to contribute to the advancement of engineering education.

The Journal maintains its quality through the help of the engineering educators at large and those who volunteer their time and expertise in reviewing manuscripts. Further, the Journal has published numerous special issues over the past few years, and there are plans for more in the future. Such issues not only focus on topics of current interest to the community, but also maintain the vitality of the journal through the expertise of prominent guest-editors.

The current issue (30-1) is divided into two sections: The first is a special issue devoted to selected papers from the 2012 Capstone Design Conference held in Champaign-Urbana, IL, USA. It is guest-edited by Professors Susannah Howe, Jay Goldberg, Scott Palo, and Peter Rogers. Many thanks are due to them for their work, and for their time and effort put forward in this special issue.

The second section has regular contributions on a variety of topics that include: Systems Design, Creativity, Imagination, First Generation Students, Diversity, Retention, Leadership Styles, Learning Styles, Cross-Cultural Comparisons, Improving Students’ Performance, Engineering Mathematics, Examinations, Distance Learning, Computer-Based Assessment, Project-Based Learning, Laboratory Activities, Nanotechnology, Chemical Engineering, LabVIEW

I hope the readers find this issue interesting, stimulating and useful. I wish you all a very happy and prosperous year in 2014.

Ahmad Ibrahim