

Editorial

The current issue (37-4) has contributions by 79 authors from institutions in China, Australia, USA, Denmark, Chile, Korea, Serbia, Nigeria, Colombia, Spain, Israel, and Saudi Arabia.

The topics addressed include: Sustainable Development, Educational Trust, Academic Competition, Outreach Curricula, PBL, Creativity, STEM, Student Success, Flipped Learning, Internship, Women Undergraduates, Diverse Groups, Motivation, Self-Assessment, Blended Learning, Service Learning, Interactive Teaching, Systems Thinking, Abstract Thinking, Self-Efficacy, Sustainability, Quality Assurance, and Entrepreneurship.

I wish to thank the authors and all involved for their effort and dedication. I also wish everyone happy and inspiring reading in a healthy and safe environment.

There is no royal road to geometry: this statement is attributed to the great mathematician Euclid of Alexandria in response to Ptolemy. The king asked Euclid whether there is a faster way (short cut) to learning geometry than through Euclid's book on geometry. The Royal Road is believed to be an express road that was built across Anatolia and Persia to allow rapid transportation and communication. The spirit of the response is applicable to a different topic, engineering, even in the era of a different express road: the Internet.

In the past, learning required time, dedication, persistence and guidance; this is still applicable now in spite of the availability of wider range learning technologies. However, some think that there are short cuts to learning provided by modern technology. It is unfortunate that efforts to encourage students to study engineering may inadvertently give them the impression that this could be the case. It would be more unfortunate if short cuts are provided leading to equating learning with acquiring techniques to obtain a diploma. It is a positive thing that the king was motivated to learn geometry and it is understandable if a king with demanding responsibilities asks for the possibility of a quick way to learn; but it is not commendable if engineering students ask for a short cut to pass an examination.

At its heart, engineering is about using science to find creative, practical solutions. It is a noble profession (Queen Elizabeth II). In this noble profession serious, intelligent, efficient, and ethical work is what is expected from engineers and should also be required from engineering students.

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