

## A Summary of the First Year of the Journal

**I**N the Editor-in-Chief's introductory editorial (Volume 1, January 1985), the intended wide scope of the *Journal of Propulsion and Power* was stressed. Now that the first six issues have been published, it is of interest to see how well a balanced matching of the stated scope of the Journal has been achieved. With the publication of the sixth issue, a total of 88 articles, technical notes, and synoptics have been published. It is not always obvious how exactly to classify any given paper, but, given some possible alternative classifications for a very few papers, the distribution of the 88 articles within the stated Journal scopes is as follows:

|  |    |
|--|----|
| airbreathing propulsion  | 48 |
| electric and exotic propulsion   | 6  |
| solid and liquid rockets   | 19 |
| fuels and propellants  | 3  |
| power generation and conversion for<br>aerospace vehicles                                | 3  |
| application of aerospace science and<br>technology to terrestrial devices<br>and systems | 9  |

When classified with respect to the related sciences of combustion, fluid mechanics, and solid mechanics, as described in the Journal scope, those papers with a heavy emphasis in the given science can be summarized as:

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| combustion      | 26 |
| fluid mechanics | 36 |
| solid mechanics | 3  |

The above figures lead to some fairly obvious conclusions. In this writer's view, the Journal can be said to have gotten off to a solid start in several of the scope classifications, both by discipline and science. It is, however, disappointing that the full breadth of scope is being only lightly utilized. There are, of course, many possible explanations of how such a restricted distribution arises, ranging from problems of potential authors' perceptions to the realities of company and government publication restrictions.

As it can be imagined, however, from the writer's viewpoint it would be satisfying indeed if those areas experiencing sparse publication in this first year would display a vigorous increase in the near future. It would be to the benefit of all if the Journal reached the intended broad and balanced scope originally envisioned, and in this respect, potential authors of all scope classifications are encouraged to submit their contributions for consideration.

It is hoped and expected also, in the coming issues, to provide substantial review and state-of-the-art reports of subject areas of interest to the readership. As with my first editorial, I sincerely request the support of the membership, TAC, and Technical Committees, and solicit your suggestions and advice.

Gordon C. Oates  
*Editor-in-Chief*