# *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*

# Changes—Scope and Staff

THIS issue marks one of the most important changes since the founding of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* fifteen years ago. The key to this event is the decision, taken by the Publications Committee and the AIAA Board of Directors at their April 1977 meetings, to establish an AIAA *Journal of Guidance and Control*. Volume I, Number 1, of this new journal was mailed to subscribers this January. The establishment of the *Journal of Guidance and Control* has both an immediate and a long-term impact on the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. The immediate effect is that the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*, effective with this issue, will revert back to bimonthly publication. As I pointed out in my editorial a year ago, approximately 35% of the papers which we have published in the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* fall within the scope of the new *Journal of Guidance and Control*. Simultaneously, there has been a continuing national environment in which interest and funding in space activity continues to be depressed by pre-1970 standards. These two factors taken together mean that we cannot maintain our quality standards and simultaneously provide the volume of papers to which we have been accustomed; hence the decision to publish only six issues per year.

The long-term impact is in the mix of papers which will appear in the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. This is a potentially more serious effect and should receive the careful attention of readers, authors, editors, and the AIAA committees. No longer will all spacecraft and missile subsystems be represented in this journal. Papers on the guidance, control, and navigation of these vehicles will now appear in the new publication. Papers on the orbital mechanics and attitude dynamics of these craft will also appear in the new journal if their primary results are in a form and of a nature which can be used by navigation and control engineers in the pursuit of their specialties. In essence, a discipline journal has been established in a stable of publications which have heretofore been organized almost totally about classic vehicle applications. Both the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* and the *Journal of Aircraft* will have to adapt to the challenge of this new situation in order to maintain their character and quality.

It is my pleasure to announce that Paul F. Holloway has agreed to accept this challenge by becoming the next Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. Paul, the Director for Space at the NASA Langley Research Center, is a veteran Associate Editor of this journal, having just completed his second three-year term in that position. He has been a fair, prompt, and perceptive technical editor. These attributes, plus his extensive spacecraft and management experimence, make him well qualified to move to the top of the masthead. His statement of *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* objectives for the future follows this editorial.

In addition to this change of command there are other editor changes which reflect both the passage of time and the establishment of the new journal. In the former category is the retirement of Joseph V. Mullin as Associate Editor, also a two-term veteran. Joe could always be counted on for a sound decision, not only for papers in his own field but for those occasional unusual submittals for which no Associate Editor was uniquely suited. These are difficult papers to process, and it has been a comfortable feeling to have Joe Mullin on the staff. I wish him the best with the time he will now have returned to his schedule.

As a replacement for Mullin, we are fortunate to have Dr. Charles E. Cheeseman Jr. Dr. Cheeseman, who is Manager of Shuttle Payloads and Advanced Systems at General Electric Space Division, will be handling papers in spacecraft, materials, and structures, as well as large-scale space systems. In view of the developing interest in large space structures for a variety of application, we anticipate more activity in this area. Authors are encouraged to submit papers on their work in this area in order to help foster the cross-fertilization of ideas in the early development stages.

The vacancy created by the appointment of Paul Holloway as Editor-in-Chief will be filled by Dr. Walter B. Olstad. Dr. Olstad is the Chief of the Space Systems Division at the NASA Langley Research Center. He has an extensive background in fluid mechanics and gasdynamics and is the author of several dozen articles and reports in this area. In addition he has served as a substitute Associate Editor for the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. I welcome him to the masthead. His experience should be an asset to our publication.

The remaining changes in editorial staff lie in the transfer of personnel to the new *Journal of Guidance and Control*. I will become its first Editor-in-Chief, and Drs. D. Lewis Mingori and Jason L. Speyer, until this issue Associate Editors of this Journal, will be coming with me to serve as Associate Editors of the new publication. Drs. George A. Hazelrigg and R.H. Woodward Waesche will remain with the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rocket* to continue their support in the areas of spacecraft systems and propulsion, respectively.

My feelings about leaving the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rocket* are mixed. Since the *Journal of Guidance and Control* more intensively covers topics which are closely aligned with my own field of interest, I look forward to the new assignment with enthusiasm. Creating a new journal where none existed, an activity in which we have been engaged for the past eight months, has been an exciting and challenging task. On the other hand it has been an honor to serve as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* for the past three years. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work closely with our team of Associate Editors, both present and past, as well as with the New York based AIAA staff led by Ruth Bryans and Anne Huth. I have learned to have a good deal of respect for the former and will miss our close association. I look forward to a continuing relationship with the latter. The continued support of authors also has been a pleasure, particularly in these times of decreasing diversity in space programs.

As a final note, it is my pleasure this last time to thank the reviewers who have supported the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* this past year. Their names are printed below. Without them the archive journal system would not function.

Donald C. Fraser
*Editor-in-Chief*