Growth Amid Upheaval

S I write this editorial, I realize that I am finishing my second year as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets. The growth which occurred in the first year has continued at an accelerated pace; in fact, the number of manuscripts submitted in the first three quarters of 1982 was 27 percent higher than the number for the corresponding period last year, and was nearly the same number as was received in all of 1981. Although this is a healthy sign, it is sometimes reflected in delays in publication; for that I apologize to authors affected and beg their understanding.

Unfortunately, this increase in submissions has led to a corresponding increase in the workload of the Associate Editors; most of them have handled nearly 100 manuscripts each in the past year, far more than the guideline of 50 manuscripts per year. The AEs are also coping with the new procedure for handling manuscripts, which places the responsibility for paperwork, record keeping, correspondence with authors, etc., with several Editors rather than the reduced AIAA staff. Implementation of the procedure is continuing, and it is hoped that the inevitable delays in processing manuscripts will be understood by the authors.

This increase in workload and responsibilities has, unfortunately, led to the early resignation of Mike Card from the post of AE for Materials and Structures after two years. Thanks are owed to Mike and his capable assistant, Barbara Eutsler, for their efforts over the past two years. Replacing Mike in this AE post will be John McElman of the University of Lowell. John will be introduced in the next issue of JSR.

Another familiar name is disappearing from the masthead, that of George Hazelrigg. George has served for nearly six years as the AE for Electric Propulsion, Orbits, and Space Systems; he will be sorely missed from a personal, as well as technical, viewpoint. An indication of the load which George has been carrying is the fact tht two new AEs are being named to fill his shoes. The field of Electric Propulsion will be covered by Paul Wilbur, who has been Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Colorado State University since receiving his Ph.D. from Princeton in 1968. Paul has published extensively in his field and his was the name

mentioned by every person contacted for suggestions as to a qualified AE. The Space Systems TC recommended Fred Bradley of McDonnell Douglas as the AE for Systems, an area which has been producing increasing numbers of manuscripts as it reaches maturity in the application of several technologies to an operational satellite. Fred has also published extensively and is well respected in his field. I look forward to working with Paul and Fred.

Fortunately for JSR, two AEs will continue to serve in spite of increasing workloads. These are Leon Strand (Chemical Propulsion) and John Howe (Aerodynamics and Heat Transfer), both of whom have helped in the organization of special issues, survey papers, etc. Plans to ease their loads with additional AEs are now underway.

Thanks are also owed to several members of the AIAA staff in New York. Marisol Ayala has different responsibilities after nearly three years as the Editorial Assistant for JSR; I am already finding out through her absence just how much she contributed to the smooth functioning of the Journal. Her contribution was especially important because of the change in Managing Editors from Camille Savino Koorey to Carole A. McCormack, both of whom have been a joy and a pleasure to work with. Pam Edwards and Elaine Camhi have also helped to fill in the cracks while handling their own journals. Finally, Norma Brennan has always been available with her wise counsel, words of encouragement, and sense of humor.

Further thanks must be expressed to three other groups. First, many of the Technical Committees have established Publications Subcommittees as sources of survey papers, reviewers, etc. This detailed expertise helps to maintain a high level of technical excellence for JSR. The second group is composed of the authors who have been kind enough to share their contributions to technical knowledge. Finally, the journal cannot function effectively without the contributions of the reviewers, who have helped to ensure the accuracy of the papers published in JSR. Thanks are due to all those whose names are listed on the following page.

R.H. Woodward Waesche Editor-In-Chief