

Consolidation and Outreach

THIS editorial is being written shortly after I received a letter reappointing me as Editor-in-Chief of JSR for three additional years. The initial three years were, in many ways, so rewarding that it was hard to believe the passage of time. Much has happened in the past three years. For instance, the changes in procedures for handling manuscripts have led to an increase in record-keeping and paperwork for all the Editors; the initial lessons learned, once again, caused improvements in these procedures which have streamlined the accompanying details required to process manuscripts. At the same time, the mechanism for submittal of manuscripts from meetings has been altered to one where the authors must take a positive step in submitting the manuscript directly to the pertinent Editor-in-Chief. This change in submittal procedure has led to a decrease in the number of manuscripts submitted from meetings; those manuscripts which are submitted, however, have been sent by the authors with an increased awareness of the archival standards demanded by AIAA for its journals, thereby easing the initial screening process. At the same time, the number of "over-the-transom" papers has remained constant or has increased. In order for any journal to remain viable under these circumstances, it must reach out to attract new sources of archival literature. In the case of JSR, special issues have been planned dealing with current topics in fields relating to spacecraft, and meeting organizers have been contacted regarding potential issues.

Meanwhile the changes in procedures and paper topics have led to major changes in JSR's staff since my last editorial. The residual load in Materials and Structures led, early in the year, to the acquisition of John Dugundji as the AE for this complex field. John has been on the faculty of MIT in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics since 1957, and is handling the many different topics with quiet competence. As mentioned last year, increasing workloads meant that additional AE's were needed to aid Leon Strand (Chemical Propulsion) and John Howe (Aerodynamics and Heat Transfer). JSR has been fortunate, indeed, in enlisting the aid of Jim Martin and Clark Lewis to fill these roles. Jim has served at NASA Langley since 1967 in the fields of orbits, space vehicles, and development cost; he is also a member of the Liquid Rockets TC, and has found time to complete his Ph.D. in addition to all his other interests. Clark has been a member of the Aerospace and Ocean Engineering faculty at Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University since 1968, and is a member of the Fluid Dynamics TC. Both have published extensively, including papers in JSR; they have been my professional acquaintances for some time, and both have moved into their duties with skill and enthusiasm which have more than met the goals for AE's.

Continuing for another year are John Howe and Paul Wilbur, who have shared the heaviest workload over the past year. John's continuing areas of expertise are mentioned above, while Paul is handling all fields of advanced propulsion systems. Despite heavy loads, both have been able to maintain the review process with good humor and a sustained high level of expertise.

Special kudos must go to another continuing AE, Fred Bradley, who has been handling manuscripts dealing with Space Systems, a field requiring a wide range of expertise. His

evaluations have been routinely excellent, but the remarkable aspect of Fred's performance has been that it has continued following his retirement from McDonnell Douglas after 35 years of service. AIAA is indeed fortunate to have such a professional in its ranks and I feel we owe many thanks to Fred for his continuing contributions during this time.

This editorial does, however, bring a note of sadness in that I must announce the departure of Leon Strand as an AE. This old friend has performed nobly over the past three years, despite an always heavy workload, and a debt of gratitude is owed to Leon for his exemplary level of service during this time. I feel doubly fortunate in being able to announce the appointment of another old friend (over 20 years) to the masthead in this position. He is Bob Brown, who has been at United Technologies' Chemical Systems Division for 22 years following receipt of his Ph.D. from the University of California. He has become renowned as an expert in the steady and unsteady combustion of rockets and ramjets. I look forward to working with Bob and sharing in his knowledge.

Another person whose name is new on the masthead deserves thanks for his aid as a guest Associate Editor for not one, but two special issues. He is Al Vampola of the Aerospace Corporation and the Space Sciences and Astronomy TC. Al was responsible for the group of papers published on the SCATHA program in the September-October issue and for the group of papers on OSS-1 to be published early this year. Dr. Vampola accomplished these tasks despite a heavy workload and illness which kept him from work for an extended period. His offer to serve further was especially heartening, and was gratefully accepted in light of the increasing number of papers describing the scientific results from the Space Shuttle.

Other changes have occurred which, fortunately, have not impacted JSR in a negative manner. Bill Heiser has replaced Earl Dowell as Vice President—Publications. Both have taken a strong positive interest in JSR which is appreciated. Bob Inman has moved into the position of Senior Editor and is providing an air of steady professionalism which results from his years of experience in technical publication. The continuing contributions of Elaine Camhi, Karen Goodstein, and Felipa Santiago of the AIAA staff have been integral parts of the success of JSR in meeting schedules with high standards of excellence. Above all, Norma Brennan has always been there to lend a hand, give advice, and put everything into perspective; she has been a special part of these three years.

Thanks are also owed to three additional groups of individuals. The first group comprises the many authors who have chosen JSR as the vehicle to share their contributions to knowledge. It is hoped that they will continue such sharing and, in doing so, will continue to realize the need for payment of the page charges required for financial viability of the AIAA journals. Second, many technical committees have provided aid in nominations for AE's, reviewers, survey papers, etc. Last, and far from least, are the many reviewers for JSR who provided the technical support without which no archival journal can exist effectively. The listing of their names on the following page is only an attempt to thank them for their contributions.

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