

THE ROLE OF A BROADLY-BASED JOURNAL

Chemical engineering has been an outward-looking profession since its emergence as an identifiable discipline early in this century. Chemical engineers have traditionally been quick to recognize the relevance of their chemical, physical and engineering science skills to new fields of application.

Keeping this outward look is becoming a major challenge to the profession, given the growing tendency towards specialized publication. The applicability of chemical engineering skills to nontraditional areas has not decreased, as evidenced by the growing involvement of chemical engineers in such areas as materials and biotechnology; communication among researchers in these new areas and the bulk of the profession is shrinking, however. The potential deleterious effects are twofold: these practitioners may develop a feeling of isolation from their profession, while the bulk of the profession loses the opportunity to appreciate and to participate in some of the most exciting research undertaken by their colleagues.

Most chemical engineers, whatever their fields of specialization, obtain some research results that are so firmly based in traditional chemical engineering principles that they can, and should, be communicated to the profession as a whole. Providing the opportunity for such communication is the role of a broadly-based archival journal, and meeting this responsibility is a major component of our editorial policy. Journal Reviews are encouraged in both traditional and nontraditional areas of chemical engineering. The Consulting Editors, who represent a wide spectrum of interests, will assist in ensuring that *AIChE Journal* is truly representative of the best chemical engineering research in the broadest sense. We will work in all cases for speedy publication in order to facilitate rapid communication among researchers and to enable the profession to remain abreast of important research advances in all areas of chemical engineering—traditional and nontraditional.

Morton M. Denn
Editor



Morton M. Denn has been named the Editor of the *AIChE Journal* succeeding Robert L. Kadlec of the University of Michigan. Denn is professor of chemical engineering at the University of California at Berkeley, and program leader, polymers and polymer composites in the Center for Advanced Materials at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.

Denn, who earned his undergraduate degree from Princeton University and his doctorate from the University of Minnesota in chemical engineering, was a Guggenheim Fellow, Fulbright Lecturer, and the Allan P. Colburn Professor at the University of Delaware. He also was a visiting professor at the University of Melbourne, Technion and Cal Tech. He is the author of more than 90 papers and five books and serves as a trustee of the CACHE Corp.

He is a recipient of the Institute's Professional Progress Award and William H. Walker Award.