

Changing of the Guard

This issue of the *AICHE Journal* marks the transition in Editorship from Professor Stanley I. Sandler of the University of Delaware to Professor Michael P. Harold of the University of Houston. This is a rare event, only the sixth one in the 57-year history of the *AICHE Journal*.

Under the 11-year leadership of Professor Sandler, the sixth Editor, the *AICHE Journal* went through a number of substantial changes. It moved from hard copy-based manuscript submission to electronic-based submission via Rapid Review and ultimately ScholarOne. It also transitioned from self-publishing to joining the John Wiley & Sons family, which itself brought major changes, such as the publishing of online editions through Wiley Interscience and the Wiley Online Library and the digitization of the entire archive. In addition, Professor Sandler spearheaded the celebration of the 50th year of the *AICHE Journal*. Throughout his tenure, he stayed true to his commitment of improving the *AICHE Journal* in the tradition established by his predecessors. He was continuously monitoring the evolution of the chemical engineering profession to make sure that emerging areas were covered. He attracted the best Associate Editors, and the *AICHE Journal* greatly benefited from their renown and expertise in such areas as materials and biomaterials. Indeed, Professor Sandler had a solid hand on the helm and skillfully steered the *AICHE Journal* through the ever changing world of chemical engineering. AIChE and the worldwide chemical engineering community owe Professor Sandler a great debt of gratitude for the excellent work done to improve and grow the *AICHE Journal*.

The Publication Committee is particularly grateful for Professor Sandler's willingness to serve an extra year beyond his second five-year term. During that year, a search committee, chaired by Professor John Ekerdt of the University of Texas at Austin, was charged with the difficult task of finding an individual with the kind of skill, knowledge, and energy that Professor Sandler displayed. Based on a careful screening process, Professor Michael Harold emerged as the candidate of choice. The Publication

Committee is pleased that Professor Harold has agreed to accept this challenging assignment and become the seventh Editor of the *AICHE Journal*.

As our new Editor takes the helm of this well-established and respected generalist journal, the chemical engineering community is experiencing an incredible and increasing diversification that is pushing specialization, with some loss of the shared knowledge that forms the foundation of our discipline. Professor Harold has the breadth of vision, the scientific depth and standards, and the business acumen to tackle these diverging trends. He will need the active participation of the whole chemical engineering community, working together, to reach our goal of strengthening the *AICHE Journal* as the premier archive for the whole of the chemical engineering profession. Let us all help Professor Harold bring the *AICHE Journal* to greater prominence. We wish him success in leading the *AICHE Journal* in the coming years.



Jan J. Lerou
Chair, Publication Committee