

Editorial

AS OF January 1, 2004, I will be retiring as the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE MICROWAVE AND WIRELESS COMPONENTS LETTERS (MWCL). This responsibility will be turned over to Prof. Rüdiger Vahldieck. The Administrative Committee (AdCom) of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society voted unanimously to select him for this job during its June 2003 meeting. Prof. Vahldieck brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to MWCL. He has been active in microwave teaching and research for more than 20 years, and is indeed more than qualified for this crucial assignment.

The last three years in the life of MWCL have brought several changes. The first of these was the name change from IEEE MICROWAVE AND GUIDED WAVE LETTERS (MGWL) to IEEE MICROWAVE AND WIRELESS COMPONENTS LETTERS (MWCL). This change was suggested to emphasize the connection between the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society and this journal on one side, and the ever-growing, or even dominating, wireless technology on the other side. The name change became effective January 2001. As expected, the new name attracted more attention and consequently more manuscript submissions to the journal. By the end of my 3-year term, about a 30% increase in the number of submitted papers was observed. MWCL is as healthy and vigorous as ever.

The increased interest in and submission to MWCL impacted the journal for some time. With more submissions, it is normal to expect a corresponding increase in accepted papers. Given the fixed page budget, a backlog gradually developed. Ready manuscripts had to wait for several months to be scheduled for publication. An immediate solution was needed. In early 2003, a decision was made to suspend the publication of the Patent Abstracts and the Asia-Pacific Abstracts to make more pages

available for technical manuscripts. Since then, MWCL started publishing more technical papers in each issue. This catch-up phase will be concluded by the February 2004 issue, and the submission-to-publication delay will be reduced to the expected period.

One more change was implemented during my tenure. It was the addition of three new associate editors: Prof. Shigeo Kawasaki, Dr. Arvind Sharma, and Prof. Rüdiger Vahldieck. They brought a wide knowledge base, diverse technical background, and international accessibility to this journal. They helped to expand the reviewer's base by reaching out to well-qualified researchers, engineers, and scientists all over the world, which emphasized the true transnational nature of MTT-S, IEEE, and the scientific community at large. Their term also expires with the end of my term. On behalf of MTT-S members and MWCL readers, I would like to thank them for their dedication, hard work, and excellent contributions.

I would like to take this opportunity also to thank Dr. H. C. Bell, who served as the Associate Editor for Patent Abstracts, and Dr. H. Ogawa and Mr. S.-J. Xu for editing the Asia-Pacific Abstracts. The MWCL Editorial Assistant, Ms. Becky Powell has skillfully managed the operation of the editorial office since it was moved to the University of Tennessee. Her commitment to MWCL and dedication to processing manuscripts cannot go unnoticed. On behalf of MWCL authors and readers, I thank her for the excellent work, and congratulate her on a job well done.

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Samir M. El-Ghazaly (S'84–M'86–SM'91–F'01) received the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering in 1988 from the University of Texas at Austin.

In August 1988, he joined Arizona State University, Tempe, as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering, where he became an Associate Professor in 1994, and a Professor in 1998. In August 2002, he joined The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, as a Professor and the Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He worked at and visited several universities and research centers including Cairo University; the Centre Hyperfréquences et Semiconducteurs at Université de Lille I in France, where he worked on the simulation of submicron-gate MESFETs; University of Ottawa in Canada, where he worked on the analysis of E-plane circuits; the University of Texas at Austin as a Research Assistant and a Post-Doctoral Fellow later; NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, CA, where he was a Summer Faculty Research Fellow working on millimeter-wave mixers; CST-Motorola, Inc., where he was on sabbatical leave from ASU working on modeling of semiconductor devices for RF applications; IEMN, Université de Lille, France, as a Visiting Professor; and the Swiss Federal Research Institute (ETH) as a Visiting Professor. His research interests include microwave and millimeter-wave semiconductor devices and circuits, semiconductor device simulations, ultra-short pulse propagation, linear and nonlinear modeling of superconductor microwave lines, wave-device interactions, electromagnetics, and numerical techniques applied to monolithic microwave integrated circuits.

Dr. El-Ghazaly is a Fellow of the IEEE, an elected member of Commissions A and D of URSI, a member of Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, and Eta Kappa Nu. He was the secretary and the vice-chairman, and the chairman of Commission A of the U.S. National Committee of URSI (1997–2002). Currently, he is the Chairman of Commission D of the U.S. National Committee of URSI. He has been a member of the Technical Program Committee for the IEEE International Microwave Symposium since 1991. He was the Chairman of the IEEE-Waves and Devices Group, Phoenix Section. He was the Chapter Funding Coordinator and the Chairman of the Chapter Activities Committee of the IEEE MTT Society. He is an elected member of the Administrative Committee of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society. He is the Editor-in-Chief for the IEEE MICROWAVE AND WIRELESS COMPONENTS LETTERS. He is also the chairman of MTT-15 Committee on Field Theory. He was the General Chairman of the IEEE MTT-S 2001 International Microwave Symposium, which was held in Phoenix, AZ, May 2001.



Rüdiger Vahldieck (M'85–SM'86–F'99) received the Dipl.-Ing. and Dr.-Ing. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Bremen, Germany, in 1980 and 1983, respectively.

From 1984 to 1986, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Ottawa, Canada. In 1986, he joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Victoria, BC, Canada, where he became a Full Professor in 1991. During Fall and Spring of 1992–1993, he was a Visiting Scientist at the “Ferdinand-Braun-Institute für Hochfrequenztechnik” in Berlin, Germany. In 1997, he accepted an appointment as Professor for electromagnetic field theory at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, and became Head of the Laboratory for Electromagnetic Fields and Microwave Electronics (IFH) in 2003. His research interests include computational electromagnetics in the general area of EMC and in particular for computer-aided design of microwave, millimeter wave, and opto-electronic integrated circuits. Since 1981, he has published more than 230 technical papers in books, journals and conferences, mainly in the field of microwave CAD.

Dr. Vahldieck is a Fellow of the IEEE. He received the J. K. Mitra Award of the IETE (1996) for the best research paper in 1995, and was co-recipient of the outstanding publication award of the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers in 1983. He is the Past-President of the 2000 International Zurich Seminar on Broadband Communications (IZS'2000), President and General Chairman of the International Zurich Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC Zurich) and member of the editorial board of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MICROWAVE THEORY and TECHNIQUES. From 2000 until 2003, he served as an Associate Editor for the IEEE MICROWAVE AND WIRELESS COMPONENTS LETTERS and is the Editor-in-Chief effective January 2004. Since 1992, he has served on the Technical Program Committee of the IEEE International Microwave Symposium, the MTT-S Technical Committee on Microwave Field Theory, and in 1999 on the TPC of the European Microwave Conference. From 1998 until 2003, he was Chapter Chairman of the IEEE Swiss Joint Chapter on MTT, AP, and EMC.