
EDITORIAL



Paul G. Roetling
Editor

The Changing of the Guard

After four years, the time has come for me to step down from my position as editor of JEl. I'm pleased to announce that Edward R. Dougherty of the Rochester Institute of Technology has been chosen as editor for the next three years. This is my last editorial. In the next issue, Ed will be discussing the future of JEl. Although, for the time being, I will continue to handle manuscripts previously submitted, the new editor has already begun processing new manuscripts. (Potential authors, please see the "Information for Contributors" on the inside front cover for a new address for submitting manuscripts.)

As the founding editor of JEl, I have served since planning began for the journal in early 1991. We began to receive submissions in April 1991. It took some time for me to get over the fact that our referees recommended rejection of the first five manuscripts submitted! Fortunately, things got better after that. The premier issue of JEl was published in January 1992 and was available for inspection at the Electronic Imaging meeting that February.

Since then, we have published 12 quarterly issues, in three volumes, comprising about 1200 pages. Meanwhile, we have built a cadre of referees, starting from zero, and now numbering over 200, who have served faithfully and anonymously as volunteers, dedicating their time to conducting the careful reviews that uphold the quality of the journal. I truly appreciate their hard work.

Thanks to Eric Hanson, who served as guest editor, we had a special section on nonimpact printing in July 1993. A concept of special sections on "Electronic Imaging at —" to highlight work at various universities was proposed and announced, but in spite of discussions

with several professors, we have yet to get any such sections off the ground. Perhaps our new editor will be more successful with the concept.

Most issues of JEl contain color illustrations. As anyone who reads my editorials knows, I believe good illustrations are essential to our success. They have been a source of both joy and frustration to me. The recent SPIE offer to make illustrations available in digital form by anonymous FTP is a giant step in the right direction, but I wish we could have done more toward making illustrations (including color) easier and cheaper for our authors. I hope the new editor can move JEl further into the digital world.

Personally, I have enjoyed working with Associate Editor Majid Rabbani, Managing Editor Lorretta Palagi and the rest of the journals staff, and the officers and staffs of both IS&T and SPIE. All are experts at their jobs and dedicated to doing them well. In my own office, my editorial assistants, first Sue Crane and more recently Lisa Attardo, have kept the information flowing and are largely responsible for any semblance of efficiency in my office. Without them I would have long since been lost in the sea of paper that crosses an editor's desk.

It is with mixed feelings that I turn the helm over to the new editor. I will miss working with the fine people associated with JEl, but I cannot say I will miss the work. I am happy looking at our success as a new journal. Ed, I wish you every success in taking over JEl. May you build the journal into everything the founders wished for.

Finally, as I have closed almost every editorial, I continue to invite your comments. My addresses, postal and e-mail, appear for one last time on the masthead of this issue.