

A Global Community: Year Five—and Beyond

The *Journal of Engineering Education* (JEE) is in the final year of its five-year strategic plan “to catalyze a global community of scholars and practitioners dedicated to advancing rigorous scholarship in engineering education.”¹ More importantly, its completion positions JEE very well to enter its second century of scholarship in 2011. Yes, that’s correct; JEE will be 100 years old next year! Preparations are already underway to celebrate JEE’s centennial year, which include:

- a centennial issue of JEE in January 2011 guest edited by four leading international scholars and an impressive team of authors and contributors;
- commemorative activities at the 2011 ASEE annual conference to celebrate the global emergence of engineering education as a field of scholarly inquiry; and
- a new JEE Web site to support the broader global community of stakeholders involved in engineering education research.

As pleased as we are about preparations for next year, we are equally pleased to share with you the highlights of our accomplishments this year.

- JEE was among the top 5 percent of nearly 21,000 international journals rated as “best in their field” by the Australian Research Council. JEE was the only journal in engineering education to receive the top rating, A*, and only one of six education journals to receive the A* rating among those also listed in the category education and education research on the Social Sciences Citation Index.²
- The article, “Advancing Global Capacity for Engineering Education Research: Relating Research to Practice, Policy, and Industry,” appearing in this issue as well as the April issue of the *European Journal of Engineering Education* (EJEE) presents the results of the ten international sessions sponsored jointly by JEE and EJEE from 2007–2008.³ This unique article advances our understanding of the global emergence of engineering education as field of inquiry and its joint publication is evidence of the importance our journals place on advancing the field through international collaborations.
- JEE now has nine international partners. This year we welcomed the International Association for Continuing Engineering Education (IACEE), Korean Society for Engineering

Education (KSEE), Mühendislik Dekanları Konseyi (MDK) or the Turkish Engineering Deans Council, and the journal *Research in Higher Education of Engineering* (RHEE). We are especially pleased to announce that selected JEE articles will soon appear in Korean in the *Korean Journal of Engineering Education* and in Chinese in *Research in Higher Education of Engineering*.⁴

- The third Research in Engineering Education Symposium, launched by JEE in 2007, was held July 20–23, 2009 in Palm Cove, Australia. This highly successful event was organized and hosted by Dr. Roger Hadgraft, Director, Engineering Learning Unit, University of Melbourne. Among the outcomes was the election of a nine member international Governing Board, which recently organized the Research in Engineering Education Network (REEN) to serve as a parent organization. The symposium will be one of its important global activities.⁵
- Other international outreach continues on several fronts. For example, JEE has offered or will soon offer workshops on engineering education research in a variety of countries including Taiwan, Mexico, India, Malaysia, and the United Arab Emirates; it organized a session on building a multidisciplinary cross-cultural community in engineering education research at the 13th Biennial European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction (EARLI) Conference in Amsterdam in August, 2009, and it is a sponsor of the 9th International Conference of the Learning Sciences to be held June 29–July 2, 2010 in Chicago.⁶
- JEE continued to diversify its editorial team and welcomed four new associate editors: Drs. Ton de Jong, University of Twente; Lisa R. Lattuca, The Pennsylvania State University; Ann F. McKenna, Northwestern University; and Sheri D. Sheppard, Stanford University. They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in discipline-based education research and the broader learning sciences.
- Access to JEE is expanding rapidly. Subscriptions continue to grow, especially internationally, reaching subscribers in over 80 countries last year. Scholars may now also access JEE on EBSCOhost’s Education Research Complete™ and Academic Search Complete™, Elsevier’s Scopus, and hopefully soon on the U.S. Department of Education’s Education Resources Information Center.

¹JEE strategic plan: Advancing engineering education research worldwide. 2005. *Journal of Engineering Education* 94 (3): 283–84.

²The other peer journals were the *American Educational Research Journal*, *British Educational Research Journal*, *Harvard Educational Review*, *Oxford Review of Education*, and *Review of Educational Research*. For more information, see www.arc.gov.au/era/default.htm.

³For a history of the sessions, see the Editor’s Page in the *Journal of Engineering Education*, 2008, 97 (2): 109 and 2009, 98 (2): 103.

⁴A brief description of our partners appears inside the front cover and on our Web site, www.asee.org/jee.

⁵For more information see, grou.ps/reen.

⁶For more information about the conference, see www.isls.org/icls2010/conf_ccc.html/. As of February, 28, 2010, there were at least five sessions, ten posters, and one pre-conference workshop on engineering education.

- Manuscript processing continued to be timely and rigorous. On average, manuscripts were assessed for their suitability for peer review in five days and those forwarded for review completed the process in 60 days. One in fourteen manuscripts (7.2 percent) was accepted for publication and published within two journal issues of acceptance.⁷

As always, I am deeply grateful to the many individuals and organizations that contribute to the journal's success. Among them are the associate editors for their timely and thoughtful review of manuscripts and especially for their extra efforts to help make JEE more than a place to publish papers. I also greatly value the support

of JEE's international partners, ASEE's Board of Directors, the ASEE headquarters staff, the JEE Advisory Board, and my assistant editor. Finally, I especially commend those colleagues who generously provide their time and expertise to review the journal's manuscripts. Their insightful reviews not only shape the quality of the journal but also the future of engineering education worldwide through their feedback to over 600 international authors last year. Each of the individuals listed on the following pages served as a reviewer for at least one manuscript for the *Journal of Engineering Education* in 2009. Thank you!

—Jack R. Lohmann

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⁷As of February 28, 2010, 9.3 percent of the submissions in 2009 were either under review or returned to the author for revision.

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