



# Editorial

This is my last issue as Technical Editor and I wish to publicly recognize the unselfish service provided by all of the associate editors during these past five years, to thank the reviewers of our papers, those individuals who assure that the quality of the work published in the Journal meets the consistent high standards of the Society, and finally to encourage our authors to continue their submission of high quality work to the Journal. The publishing staff of the ASME have been a joy to work with; their dedication and professionalism are the standard of excellence. I extend my special thanks to our production editor, Mr. Ray Ramonas.

The new Technical Editor of the Journal will be Dr. Daniel J. Inman, who is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Professor Inman is an active teacher and researcher in the areas of vibration and control and is uniquely suited to provide the technical direction and leadership for this Journal as it evolves as the *Journal of Vibration and Acoustics*. I offer my best wishes to Dr. Inman.

As I recount my experiences of these past five years and consider how the Journal might be improved over the next five years, I think of the need for timeliness in the review process. The review process is too lengthy. Many of the journals within the ASME are grappling with this issue. I ask for wholehearted support and cooperation from our reviewers. We appreciate your enthusiasm and your willingness to review papers for our Journal, but your responses must be timely. Streamlining the review process time will benefit everyone: the authors, the Journal, and ultimately the reviewers who, in many cases, are also authors.

It has been 112 years since Lord Rayleigh published the *Theory of Sound*. The intellectual challenge remains! Modern computational methods, electronics and instrumentation, and computers have provided new tools and techniques to investigate phenomena that were previously beyond our grasp. The ability to investigate nonlinear phenomena is at hand: system identification is a science. We need to see more work reported on *design* and *control*, for this is the ultimate test of the applicability of our experimental and analytical research. The body of knowledge in vibration and sound has grown exponentially in the past 112 years, but much is still unknown as we try to build faster machines and lighter structures of engineered materials. It is an exciting time to be an engineer working in vibration and acoustics.

Thomas F. Conry  
 Technical Editor  
 Department of General Engineering  
 University of Illinois  
 Urbana, IL 61801