



Editorial

A Message From the Technical Editor

With this issue the ASME JOURNAL OF HEAT TRANSFER begins its 36th year of publication. Over the past 35 years, the journal not only increased in size from 329 pages in 1959 to about 1100 pages in 1993, but also solidified its position as one of the most respected technical journals in the field of heat transfer. The journal has maintained a tradition of excellence since its inception in 1959, and that tradition has been enhanced by numerous technical and associate technical editors through their enlightened editorial policies and guidance.

The JOURNAL OF HEAT TRANSFER continues to be interested in receiving outstanding technical articles of permanent interest to the heat transfer community. We plan to continue the policy of having a good mix of experimental, numerical, and theoretical articles dealing with all of the science and technology of heat transfer. We particularly encourage articles in areas of heat transfer that are the focus of new or renewed attention by researchers and practitioners, such as heat transfer on microscale, heat transfer in materials processing and manufacturing, multiphase heat transfer, and flow and heat transfer in porous media. However, with the exception of areas that are too new to do so, the Board of Editors expects the authors to validate and benchmark their numerical or theoretical predictions before the paper will be accepted for publication in the journal.

ASME does not consider symposia and conference proceedings papers as archival, and such papers are eligible for publication in all ASME *Transactions* journals. Authors of conference papers are therefore welcome to submit their papers to the journal at any time, if they feel that their work has reached the level of quality and completeness expected for an archival paper. However, a more reasonable approach is to submit a paper to the journal after it has been first reviewed for conference presentation. The editors do not actively solicit conference papers, but many authors submit their conference papers for consideration by the journal. Some of the most significant papers from the meetings are being published in the journal.

Our readers should know that the board of editors has been vigorously debating on how to make the material published in the journal more interesting and useful. Our mission is to communicate with our audience scientific research results of fundamental character, which have application in design. We, therefore, always urge authors to address not only their peer researchers, but the broader audience of practicing engineers. Specifically, in order to improve technology transfer between those who generate new research results and the practicing heat transfer engineers in industry who use them, the Board of Editors has decided to publish invited state-of-the-art design and research review articles. The objectives of the design review articles are to: (1) broaden coverage of heat transfer topics and applications; (2) improve presentation for use by practicing

engineers; (3) increase participation of heat transfer engineers in industry; (4) increase academic/industry interaction; and (5) educate academic members of industrial needs, etc. The state-of-the-art design review articles should contain, but are not limited to, the following:

- Emphasis on topics of interest to, and recommended by, industry
- Broad scope—talk to the whole community
- Industrial application and the parameter space of interest to industry
- Comparison between theory/correlations/data
- Examples of how you use the information in the articles
- Assessment of the state-of-the-art
- Estimate of the uncertainties associated with this topic
- Recommendations: range of use, missing areas, research needs, etc.

To maintain the quality of an archival journal, the articles will be reviewed. The Board welcomes suggestions from readers for topics of the state-of-the-art design review articles. Topics and prospective authors from industry will be identified by the Board of Editors, and the technical editor will invite the author(s) to prepare the review articles.

The Board of Editors of the journal has had many discussions over the past two years of how to reduce the time from submission to publication. We are happy to report to our authors that we have managed to reduce somewhat the time from submission to completion of the review. For papers submitted in 1993, we were able to complete the review process in 8.5 months on the average. This includes first set of reviews, revisions, resubmission, re-review, and a final decision. Unfortunately, there are exceptions. The time from submission to publication has started to lengthen because of the increased backlog of unpublished papers. This has occurred in spite of tightened acceptance requirements. The number of papers submitted during 1993 increased to about 390 and represents an increase of about 50 articles over the previous year. Only about 40 percent of papers are finally published and, with very few exceptions, all require revision. On the average, the total time from submission to publication is now approaching 18 months, and efforts are being made to reduce this time. We continue to discourage authors from submitting overly long papers by returning them for revision prior to initiating the review process.

The JOURNAL OF HEAT TRANSFER benefits enormously from the efforts of a host of referees willing to provide evaluations of submitted work, all of them contributing their time on a voluntary basis. In order to recognize the exemplary service by the reviewers of the journal who combine expertise with a commitment to thoroughness, fairness, and adherence to rig-

orous standards for acceptance or rejection, the Board of Editors has established a special recognition award. The first group of individuals for the exemplary service award are:

Professor Theodore L. Bergman, The University of Texas at Austin

Professor James D. Felske, New York State University at Buffalo

Professor A. Haji-Sheikh, University of Texas at Arlington

Professor Adrienne Lavine, University of California at Los Angeles

Dr. Duane A. Nelson, Aerospace Corporation

The editors, authors, and readers of the journal owe a debt of gratitude not only to these few individuals but to all referees who provide reviews that are characterized by constructive feedback, objectivity, high standards, and promptness.

I also wish to ask readers to consider a personal subscription to the JOURNAL OF HEAT TRANSFER. A personal copy would enable you to have the latest research and technological developments in heat transfer at your fingertips. Subscriptions to the JOURNAL OF HEAT TRANSFER can be obtained by writing to the ASME Order Department, Fairfield, NJ 07007-2300.

Subscription prices are \$40.00 annually to ASME members and \$165.00 annually to nonmembers or institutions. At the current annual subscription price to members, the cost is under 4 cents per page—a very low price by any standard of comparison.

In closing, the Board of Editors acknowledges, with deep appreciation, the strong support given to the journal by our authors and our readers. Comments, suggestions, and criticisms from our readers may be directed to any member of the Board of Editors and they, in turn, will see to it that such matters are discussed at the next editorial board meeting. We will continue to work with you. I am convinced that with your help, we will keep our journal as just about the most prestigious in our field, and I hope that together we can enhance that position and make it more valuable to our readers in the coming years. I personally welcome any comments and suggestions that will help us maintain and improve the quality of the journal.

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