



Journal of
Tribology

Editorial

A Transformative Time for Tribology

I am honored and excited to begin a term guiding the Editorial Board of the *ASME Journal of Tribology*. Led by an excellent group of Associate Editors, we hope to build on the journal's established place in the field and its purpose of providing an outlet for the best research on contact, friction, wear, and lubrication. Due to many new trends in society and the research community, it feels like a new era for tribology and a transformative time for scientific publications.

With rising urgency, the tribology community continues to prove that tribology serves as an integral part of sustainability. Control of friction and wear has a profound impact on mankind's use of energy and resources. Improving our understanding of tribology will have positive effects on how humans impact the Earth's ecosystem. As part of this, a new special issue on Electric Vehicle Tribology is now open for submissions ([Special Issue on Electric Vehicle Tribology—ASME](#)).

Therefore, industry and government must continue to support researchers from all backgrounds and career lengths. Tribology research has many more contributions to be made to the advancement of humanity. You may help in this endeavor by not only publishing your work in the *ASME Journal of Tribology*, but also serving as a reviewer. If you are interested in becoming a reviewer, please contact me or one of our associate editors. Thank you to all past reviewers for the journal as well.

I also hope to maintain and raise the high standards of the journal and encourage researchers to submit their best work. Works that push the field forward and communicate this clearly and professionally are welcome. Authors should also employ the scientific method when it is applicable. Theoretical or modeling work should be compared to experimental measurements or established theories. All

papers should also recognize relevant previous work in the field and explain its own place in it. Each paper should include a data statement, and authors are encouraged to consider making data available to other researchers.

Many emerging areas in science and technology also influence the field of tribology. Artificial intelligence (AI) appears to be the most critical of these, especially when concerning scientific research journals and publications. In 2023, ASME released a policy regarding the usage of AI in paper writing and organization. Papers submitted to an ASME journal cannot use any AI generative tools in writing and content creation. To be clear, publications on using AI tools in research are acceptable, such as for finding correlations in large datasets. Since this is an emerging tool, it is currently not allowed, but it is imperative that scientists and engineers guide and in certain cases consider limiting the technology moving forward. As we understand the capabilities of AI tools more, this policy will most likely be refined.

The vision of the journal always looks toward the future, and we will continue to make improvements to the submission and review system. Please look for and expect progress. I am excited about some of the plans already set in motion and hope that you are as well.

Robert L. Jackson
Editor-in-Chief

**Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Samuel Ginn College of Engineering,
Auburn, AL 36849
e-mail: jacksr7@auburn.edu**