

Editorial

Hello From Your New EIC

I AM writing this brief message to introduce myself as the new Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of the IEEE JOURNAL OF OCEANIC ENGINEERING, starting my term in January 2018. My predecessor, N. Ross Chapman, has set very high standards, and it will be no easy task to follow in his footsteps. Yet I want to assure the readers that I intend to maintain the JOURNAL'S high standards in terms of the quality of published papers as well as ethics, as painstakingly established by Dr. Chapman and others before him.

The JOURNAL has benefitted greatly from Dr. Chapman's leadership over the past years. Although I have editorial experience as an Associate Editor with the JOURNAL for the past few years, as a Guest Editor for three special issues of various journals, and as an Associate Technical Editor for the IEEE COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE, I have never served as an EiC before. This will be a new challenge that I look forward to, and will certainly seek guidance, when necessary, from two previous EiCs—N. Ross Chapman and Christian de Moustier. We also have the continued expertise of the journal editorial office and our IEEE Publications team to ensure that things continue to run smoothly.

The scope of our JOURNAL is very broad, and I am certainly not an expert in all aspects of research in ocean sciences and engineering. I, therefore, expect to rely heavily on the qualified expertise of our esteemed reviewers, and an excellent board

of Associate Editors that my predecessors have put together. I also expect to appoint new Associate Editors in areas where we receive a large number of submissions or have limited expertise, to ensure timely reviews and decisions on manuscripts submitted to the JOURNAL. In recent years, the EiC has worked with several guest editors to put together excellent special issues based on carefully selected work presented at conferences and workshops. I see much value in this initiative, and plan to continue developing more special issues on important and emerging topics in our field. I also plan to work with the OCEANS Conference committees to continue educating authors on how they can expand on some of the good work presented at these conferences to produce high-quality peer-reviewed papers that can be published by the JOURNAL.

Although I have had several conversations with Dr. Chapman and others to try and understand some of the challenges faced by the JOURNAL, I will not truly appreciate them until months into my term as EiC. As my priorities crystallize over the coming months, I will provide details of my plans for the JOURNAL in subsequent editorial messages. In the meantime, if any of the readers have suggestions to make, I would love to hear them.

MANDAR CHITRE, *Editor-in-Chief*