

Editorial: A Year of Aerospace Computing

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ADVANCES in communications and information technologies, computer science, engineering, and other areas have contributed much to the advance of aerospace technologies, space exploration, and flight, both commercial and military.

During 2007, *Journal of Aerospace Computing, Information and Communications* has included a range of interesting papers on such wide-ranging topics as: software risk prediction and reliability, data validation, system management, coordination and control of unmanned autonomous vehicles, computer vision and vision-based navigation, formal validation of middleware, numerical and statistical analysis, and open source software.

In addition, we've had two very interesting special sections: *Achieving Intelligence in Aerospace Systems*, guest edited by Fernando Figueroa, based on best papers from InfoTech@Aerospace; and *DARPA Urban Grand Challenge*, guest edited by new Associate Editor Chris Rouff. The challenge is based on the use of terrestrial vehicles and achieving complete autonomy, from which aerospace applications and future unmanned space exploration can learn much.

In 2007 we were pleased to welcome two new Associate Editors: Chris Rouff of Lockheed Martin Advanced Technology Laboratories, and Roy Sterritt of University of Ulster, Northern Ireland. Both have already been actively working on special sections that will be of great interest to our readership: *Autonomous and Autonomic Systems* and the *DARPA Urban Grand Challenge*. We note the departure of Jubaraj Sahu, whose term has ended, from our editorial board. We also regret the departure of Chris Rumsey, Jim Neidhoefer and Amy Pritchett – three outstanding Associate Editors who have other commitments – but are grateful to them for their contributions to the journal since its inception.

To date, *JACIC* has been an entirely electronic publication. While it will continue to be published electronically monthly, and while we plan to increase the amount of multimedia content, beginning in 2007 subscribers will receive a complete digest of papers at the end of each year. This digest, which will have its own ISSN (in addition to the e-ISSN currently assigned to *JACIC*), may be more convenient for libraries and for long-term citations. It will also offer a permanent record of papers published in *JACIC* during that year. We strongly encourage subscribers to read articles when they are published and to visit the journal website for additional materials which cannot be captured in printed format. However, we hope that subscribers will get value from this additional no-cost benefit of subscribing to the journal.

Thank you for your support of *JACIC*. We look forward to your continued submissions, contributions, and comments.

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