

Recognition and Change

AFTER five years as an Associate Editor and three as Editor-in-Chief, I feel stagnation setting in—a phenomenon an archival journal can ill afford. The *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* needs and deserves aggressive enthusiasm at the top. Your new Editor-in-Chief, Woodward Waesche, meets all criteria one could establish for the job. Woody is recognized throughout the Institute's publications organization as one of the best Associate Editors the AIAA has ever had. The unusually large work load he carried as AE (the largest of any JSR Associate Editor) has not detracted from his other society activities. His work on technical committees, as the Propulsion Technical Specialty Group Coordinator representing five TC's on the Technical Activities Committee, and in organizing conferences, for example, have clearly established Woody as a leader. In his capable hands, I'm confident JSR will achieve new heights of respect in the aerospace community.

It has been a real honor for me to serve as Editor-in-Chief of this journal. The dedication and effectiveness of the Associate Editors has been especially impressive. JSR does not have many editors and, therefore, the work load is heavy. Walter Olstad, Gerald Walberg, and George Hazelrigg worked diligently to uphold the quality of our journal. Our previous Editor-in-Chief, Don Fraser (now Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Guidance and Control*) twice came to my aid when I was unable to serve, as did Pier Bargellini, who served as Guest Editor in 1979. The past three years have seen much change. Anne Huth and Ruth Bryans, who for many years were synonymous with AIAA journals, have left their respective positions; Anne has retired from AIAA and Ruth continues in her new position as Editorial Consultant of the *Progress in Astronautics and Aeronautics* book series. Norma Brennan has assumed direction of the editorial department and is doing an excellent job. Larry Levy, JSR Managing Editor, has done a superb job even though the demands on all of our headquarters publication staff have been increasing rapidly during his assignment to JSR. Because Larry now has new assignments, Tom Murphy assumes the position of Managing Editor. Dave Staiger, Administrator, Publications Services and Carol Ohrbach, Director, Production also have made major improvements in their areas of responsibility. Ralph Ragan and Allen Fuhs, with drastically different styles, have each been very effective as Vice President, Publications; it has been both educational and rewarding for me to work under their direction. Dottie Hombach, Supervisor of the Journal Support Services group, with a very small staff has provided very efficient support for all of JSR's needs. Mrs. Jean LaNeave, my Administrative Officer, has done much of the work for which I've been given credit. The final acknowledgment is for the technical reviewers who are the cornerstone of our system. Their names are listed on the next page.

Last year I reported that serious consideration was being given to changing the current journal structure. After all factors were identified and evaluated, a decision was reached to leave the current structure intact. Thus, the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* will continue. Woody Waesche's goals for our journal are stated in his editorial that follows. As a final input, I'd like to leave you with a challenge.

First, I challenge our membership and readers to develop a stronger awareness of our journals. Those of you who serve on technical committees, for example, should be constantly aware of the impact of your committee on the journals and seek ways to increase your contribution. Many have suggested that the journals should carry more survey papers. An effective mechanism to meet that goal might be for the TCs organizing conferences to invite a leading expert to prepare a survey paper as a keynote address at the conference which could subsequently be published in the appropriate journal. Perhaps each TC could agree to add an agenda item during this our 50th anniversary year to discuss how the committee can more positively support the journals. This anniversary year is particularly fitting for such a discussion because the journals are one of our most honored products.

The next decade will be a very exciting one for those whose interests lie within the scope of JSR. Many vital decisions must be reached soon which will shape our future in space. In the realm of planetary exploration, because of scientific payload demands, we must determine if aerobraking or aerocapture is an acceptable mission approach. How far do we go with shuttle derivative vehicles before developing a new replacement system? Should orbital transfer vehicles be Earth- or space-based? Is there a true "economy of scale" for large space observation platforms? Is a manned spacecraft operation center (space station) a necessary step in our National space program? Should large spacecraft be built in low-Earth orbit and then transported to higher altitudes or built in geosynchronous orbit? Is there a future for space processing on a large scale? The list of critical questions goes on and on. Often the discussion of such questions is couched primarily in economic terms. It is quite clear, however, that these questions raise many research and technology issues. I again challenge those of you involved in R&T activities that will impact our future to be constantly aware of JSR. The technical issues that will affect the future should be documented in this journal. With your support, JSR will become increasingly important to our community in the years to come.

Paul F. Holloway
Editor-in-Chief