

## The Journals in Your Future

**W**ITH this new year we of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* editorial staff welcome our new sister journal, the *Journal of Energy*, to the AIAA archive publication structure. This new publication, filling a need in what is basically a new area of interest for many of our members, does not have a substantial effect upon the four existing journals and can grow independently of them.

Another decision which will be made this year will have a much more serious potential impact on the existing journals and we solicit the opinions of all interested readers on the matter. Specifically, the issue under consideration is the establishment of a separate journal on dynamics and control. A recent one year sample of the existing journals indicates the following percentages of papers fell into the dynamics and control category: *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* 35%; *Journal of Aircraft* 10%; *Journal of Hydronautics* 8%; *AIAA Journal* 7%. Two conclusions can be drawn from these data. First, even with no growth, there already exists within our current journal structure a sufficient number of papers in this technical discipline to provide an adequate basis for the new journal. A bimonthly publication of 85 pages (this issue of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* is 64 pages) could be culled from our currently accepted submittals in the dynamics and control field. Secondly, the initial effect of such a new journal on the existing publications would be a reduction in their size by approximately the amounts indicated in the sample. Quite obviously, a decision to proceed with the new publication would have the most dramatic impact upon the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. It would be substantial enough to make it necessary to publish this journal only bimonthly.

There has been considerable discussion in the Publications Committee, Technical Activities Committee, and the AIAA Board of Directors meetings on the issue of establishing a *Journal of Dynamics and Control*. Convincing positions have been advanced on both sides of the issue. A decision is due this spring in order that we might begin publication in January 1978. I urge our readers, particularly the subscribers to this journal and those in the dynamics, control, and avionics field, to write to me now with your opinion on this matter. Your letters will be an important contribution to the decision process.

In order to aid our readers in this evaluation process, next month's issue of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* will

be a special issue on dynamics and control. We will be publishing papers in this field selected from those scheduled to be printed in the *AIAA Journal* and the *Journal of Aircraft* as well as printing some of the papers on this subject already scheduled for the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. Our *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* readers in other fields will not miss any papers—they either appear in this issue or will be printed in the March issue. We will be making every attempt to assure that all dynamics and control oriented readers of the *AIAA Journal* and the *Journal of Aircraft* will receive the February issue of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*.

In addition to these actual and potential changes in our journal structure this issue of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* marks a changing of the guard of half of our technical editing staff. Drs. Kenn Clark, Leonard Meirovitch, and William Powers have retired after a collective service of 15 years to this journal. The associate editor has one of the most difficult tasks in our society. It is he who makes the basic decision on whether or not to publish and what to revise. It is he who sorts out what is frequently different reviewer opinions on our submittals. These three men have all served long and well and we will all miss them. It has indeed been my pleasure to work with them.

In filling these vacancies, we are fortunate to welcome to the masthead Drs. George Hazelrigg, D. Lewis Mingori, and Jason Speyer. Dr. Hazelrigg, who has a broad background in spacecraft and space missions, will be handling submittals in the spacecraft systems and applications areas as well as most electric propulsion papers. Dr. Mingori, whose special interest is in spacecraft attitude dynamics and control will process the many papers in this area. Dr. Speyer, best known for his work in optimal estimation and control, will handle submittals in that general area plus many of the celestial mechanics and astrodynamics papers. These new editors bring a considerable depth and breadth of experience to our staff. They are all known by their publications. I welcome them and look forward to working with them.

Finally, there appears in this issue a list of people without whom the archive journal system would collapse—our reviewers for the past year. We are indebted to them and I am grateful for this space to thank them once again.

Donald C. Fraser  
Editor in Chief