

## A Look to the Future

With "Woody" Waesche's reassurances echoing through its pages, the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* plunged into 1987 facing a host of new challenges. The impact of the spinoff of the *Journal of Propulsion and Power* and the *Journal of Thermophysics and Heat Transfer* was beginning to settle in, the assignment of a new Editor-in-Chief coincided with a wholesale turnover in the AIAA editorial staff as the parent organization moved to Washington and two key Associate Editors, Al Vampola and Gene Menees, reached the end of their appointed terms. But, Woody's faith was confirmed. With the exception of slight publication delays in recent issues, *JSR* made it through in style, thanks to a solid collection of excellent papers, a fine new editorial staff, and a strong group of Associate Editors.

As we look to the future, it is important to note the continued focus of the *JSR* scope on "... spacecraft and missile systems and their associated missions." Over the years, that focus has continued to appeal to a broad readership of professionals interested in the application of new technical knowledge to spacecraft systems. President Reagan's recently announced National Space Policy initiative with its emphasis on "...extending U.S. manned operations beyond Earth into the solar system..." (*Aviation Week and Space Technology*, January 18, 1988) creates exciting anticipation of an increasing number of new papers dealing with proposed interplanetary mission scenarios and associated spacecraft systems. System applications of emerging technologies are also anticipated as the investment in the "Pathfinder" technology base grows. The number of papers dealing with interplanetary missions presented at the AIAA 26th Aerospace Sciences Meeting in Reno, Nevada, foreshadows the rapidly growing interest in this exciting area.

A recent conversation with a group of professionals revealed a general conception that technical journals are not interested in design papers. My reassurances to the contrary awakened a concern that such a *misconception* may be widespread in the space community. I hope that my use of this editorial space to extend those reassurances to the *JSR* readership will elicit a flood of well-written papers on applications of the design process to space and missile systems and the designs that result from such applications.

A look to the future must acknowledge the enormous contributions of those who have built the platforms from which we look. Woody Waesche's tremendously productive years as the Editor-in-Chief will leave permanent footprints on the future of *JSR*. We look forward to the accelerated growth of *JPP* under his very able leadership. We also acknowledge with

regret the loss of Bob Inman, our extremely competent Managing Editor. To Al Vampola and Gene Menees, we extend our deepest thanks for their outstanding contributions to the quality of *JSR*.

With 1987's turbulence past, we enter the new year with a solid editorial staff comprising a dedicated group of highly qualified individuals. Norma Brennan's able and competent leadership as the Director of the AIAA Editorial Department has provided an anchor to the entire *JSR* editorial staff as we have experienced the uncertainties of transition. David Allen has graciously agreed to extend his excellent service as Associate Editor for spacecraft structures and structural dynamics. Jim Martin continues as a valued Associate Editor and prolific author in the areas of launch vehicles and orbital mechanics; Mike Briggs lends us strong continuity in missile systems. Clark Lewis' outstanding efforts in the field of applied fluid dynamics have established a strong *JSR* presence in this growing area. The breadth of his technical expertise has allowed him to refocus his efforts to cover those papers dealing with the applications of thermophysics to space and missile systems. Though newly introduced in this column, Bruce Franklin has already made valuable contributions during his first year as the Associate Editor covering space systems. To this foundation staff we welcome two new Associate Editors. Dr. Henry Garrett of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory brings his considerable expertise as a research scientist and author to *JSR* to ensure the continued strength of space science publications. Dr. Walter Sturek, Chief of the Aerodynamics Research Branch at the U.S. Army Ballistic Research Laboratory, joins *JSR* to continue our growth in applied fluid dynamics. His fine reputation and strong publishing record make him a most welcome addition to the editorial staff. Finally, we are most fortunate to welcome William O'Connor as the new Managing Editor for Journals and Heather Ames as the *JSR* Senior Editor.

As I complete my first year as Editor-in-Chief I feel a sincere need to express my compliments and appreciation to the authors whose truly outstanding submissions continue to maintain the quality of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. It is your high standards that allow the journal to continue its preeminence through all the dynamics of administrative changes. Finally, to the keepers of the standards, the reviewers, I extend a heartfelt thanks. It is your dedication to the peer review process that, in the end, authenticates our efforts.

Frank J. Redd  
Editor-in-Chief