

## Editorial announcements

For almost twenty-four years I have been doing editorial work for the *Journal of Engineering Mathematics*, first as the Editorial Secretary, later on as the Managing Editor. I feel that the time has now come for me to resign as Managing Editor, although I shall continue in the role of an "ordinary" editor. I am very proud to introduce to our readers the new Editor-in-Chief, Professor H.K. Kuiken, who will be assisted by Dr. S.W. Rienstra as Assistant Editor. The new editorship applies to all papers arriving after 1 May 1990.

During its lifetime interest in the *Journal of Engineering Mathematics* on the part of both authors and subscribers has remained remarkably constant. The journal has acquired a distinctive character which is certainly worth maintaining among the ever-increasing number of international journals in the field of the application of mathematics to engineering problems. I believe that the new team of Editor-in-Chief and Assistant Editor is eminently suited to safeguard the journal's quality and traditions, while seeking new ways to broaden the diversity of the material published in the journal. I wish both of them all the best in performing their responsible role.

Let me finish by saying that I have enjoyed working with authors, editors, publishers and everybody else involved with the journal, and that I am fully confident that the *Journal of Engineering Mathematics* will continue to flourish for many years to come.

H.W. HOOGSTRATEN

The *Journal of Engineering Mathematics* has been in existence for almost twenty-four years now. For most of that period Professor Hoogstraten has been the Managing Editor. With the assistance of the Editorial Board he has safeguarded the quality of our journal. It is perhaps appropriate at this point to give our readers some insight into how this was done.

Of course, as every journal does, we depend first and foremost on the quality of the work submitted to us by prospective authors. Professor Hoogstraten was the first to look at this material. On average he decided that about half of the papers were suitable for further consideration by the Editorial Board. The Board, in turn, rejected almost half of these selected manuscripts, so that, in the end, an acceptance rate of between twenty-five and thirty percent was achieved.

As your new Editor-in-Chief I believe that our journal owes a great deal to Professor Hoogstraten for his policy of putting quality before quantity. He once said to me: "It is better to skip an issue than to fill it with inferior material or work that is otherwise unsuitable." Although our journal is fairly small, I believe it has won for itself an established and respected niche within the world of Engineering Mathematics. We are therefore very fortunate that Professor Hoogstraten has agreed to continue serving the journal as a member of the Editorial Board.

To our regular authors and in particular to our prospective ones I should like to say: "If you have prepared a manuscript which fits in well with the scope and aims printed elsewhere in this journal, please do not hesitate and do not let yourself be deterred by the rejection rate quoted above. Remember, in the end it is always far more rewarding to look back to those of your papers that were published in quality journals than to the ones which were not challenged at all."

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