

Editorial

Dear Readers

When I became Editor I mentioned in my editorial that I appreciated that I had inherited a journal of international standing but I was not complacent and was aware that there was always room for improvement. Actions that were taken soon after included increasing the membership of the Editorial Team and incorporating the *Journal of Materials Synthesis and Processing* into the *Journal of Materials Science*.

However it has been clear to me for some time that the current size and scope of the journal warranted a major change in the editorial management and, in particular, that two Editors-in-chief are required. I am pleased to announce that Prof Barry Carter, University Minneapolis, has agreed to be the other Editor-in-chief. Barry's editorial experience and his high standing in the materials science community will be invaluable assets to the Journal. For several months we have been involved in detailed discussions on the future of the Journal and we are now able to implement and announce our plans.

We have significantly increased the membership of the Editorial Team, which now numbers twelve Editors, whose fields of expertise cover the main areas of Materials Science. We welcome as Editors Mark Aindow, Grant Norton, Eva Olsson, Zuhair Munir, Kamanio Chattopadhyay and David Seidman who join our established Editorial Team members, namely Helen Chan, Jan Evans-Freeman, Philip Nash, Jim White, Julie Yeomans and Bob Young.

We have formed an Editorial Board and a Distinguished Advisory Board. The former will be more closely involved in day-to-day matters such as reviewing papers whereas the latter, as the name indicates, is more concerned with imparting high-level advice to the co-Editors-in-Chief. Many international renowned materials scientists have most willingly accepted our invitations to membership of these boards. We heartily welcome them to the Journal and look forward to a fruitful working relationship.

We also wish to share with you our plans for the publication of articles dealing with the topic of interfaces. As many of you know, David Seidman has been serving as the Editor-in-Chief of *Interface Science* for many years. Between David and ourselves it has been agreed that it would be of benefit to our journals, and to the academic community that we serve, for *Interface Science* to be incorporated into the *Journal of Materials Science*. All papers submitted to *Interface Science* in the near future will be directed to the *Journal of Materials Science* (JMS), subject, of course, to the consent of the author(s). These papers will be reviewed under the well-established JMS review procedures and the same acceptance criteria applied as to papers submitted directly to JMS. We plan to devote, periodically, Special Sections to topics within the area of interface science as dictated by current and future research trends. These arrangements will provide continuity in this important area of materials science.

We are looking forward to leading the Editorial Team and the Boards in their efforts to ensure that the *Journal of Materials Science* continues to serve and to be sensitive to the wishes of the materials science community worldwide.

Barry Carter and **Rees Rawlings**, co-Editors-in-Chief, Journal of Materials Science