

## *Editorial*

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Time flies very fast, and again we start a new year. Let me take the opportunity on behalf of the Editorial Staff and myself to wish all of you a prosperous and peaceful new year. As for the Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry it closed a successful year. Submissions were coming from all over the world and referee's body did an excellent work. All in all it can be stated that the Journal is doing well, but we must remember that there is always place for improvement.

*Let me list a few important details:*

- The Journal is published on **time** both the conventional paper Journal and the electronic one. All Regional Editors and Board Members receive a complementary copy of each issue, and they have a free access to the electronic version on the Kluwer website.
- We succeeded in decreasing the '**through over-time**' similarly to the leading international scientific journals.
- The **Impact Factor** of the Journal is not bad, but one of our main tasks should be to improve it. It is a well-known fact that the Impact Factor is not a direct measure of quality but we have to pay more attention to it.

The connections with the Publishers are nicely settled. The present success of the journal is the result of our common efforts.

I would like to report on an important Editorial Meeting held in Budapest at the end of October 2003. Several Regional Editors from different countries were able to attend along with the President of ICTAC and the Presidents of future international conferences like ICTAC 2004, and ESTAC 2006, along with the representatives from the publishing companies: Kluwer and Akadémiai Kiadó as well as the major Instrument Manufacturing Companies.

At this extended Editorial Session we discussed the future trends within TA, calorimetry and experimental thermodynamics, addressed some important issues relating to the effects of the generation change within the profession.

The different participants' short reports will be published soon.

There are some formal changes as you can see already in this edition, namely that we structure the published papers according to their content. We hope with this small alteration you will find the papers of your interest much easier.

Another important decision was made by the Editorial Board that is we publish only in English, except for those papers (French and German) that were already submitted to the Editorial Office in 2003.

My duty is to announce the new members of the Editorial Advisory Board and Regional Editors, as well as to express my gratitude to those whose period has ended, who worked hard, and invested their time and expertise in the upkeep of the Journal's scientific standard.

I have to announce that our beloved colleague, the Associate Editor of the Journal, Prof. László Pöpl passed away on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2003. His untimely death after a dramatic illness shocked us all. His conscientious and dedicated work will be missed not only by the Editorial Office but I am sure by those who had the opportunity to encounter his helping support, his scientific perfectionism. We are keeping his memory in our heart.

*J. Simon*  
Editor-in-Chief