

Preface

40-year anniversary

40 years have passed since the first issue of the Journal of Thermal Analysis was published with the support of the outstanding thermoanalytical school headed by Prof. Paulik brothers displaying a preference for a complex simultaneous thermal method developed at the Technical University in Budapest (Hungary). During this long period we witnessed a great progress in the wide variety of thermal methods and the constantly widening fields of application.

From 1998, the Journal extended its title to 'Calorimetry' because we realized the growing interest in the field of application of both non-scanning and scanning calorimetry.

From 2000 the Journal is published both as a conventional paper journal and as an electronic one. You can access the Journal on internet at the following website: www.springer.com/10973 where you can read the 'Table of contents' of each issue starting from the first one, from 1969. The authors' name, the title of the papers, the abstracts, the keywords, moreover the corresponding authors' e-mail address can be accessed for free. However, the complete articles are downloadable in PDF form for an extra fee.

Starting from 2005, similarly to other scientific journals there is another – so called 'OnlineFirst' – possibility for publication. These articles are ready for publication, the only thing in which they differ from the printed version is their pagination. Since the OnlineFirst version and the final paper keep the same DOI number, once the paper is published in the relevant issue, it automatically disappears from the OnlineFirst folder on the internet.

From January 2009 the papers should be submitted exclusively through the Editorial Manager system (EM) in order to support the editorial process and to automatically inform the individual authors about the current state of their manuscripts.

In order to become familiar with the use of this new system, please visit the following website: www.editorialmanager.com/jtac

40 years on a historical scale may be a passing episode whereas in the life of a scientific journal it is a relatively long time. The past was full of failures, fights and plenty of success. What I mainly realized from them were the continuous changes. Since the political situation has changed, the publication process – also due to the great development of the computer technology – has improved, different co-Publishers (Heyden Wiley, Kluwer, Springer) have followed each other. Fortunately, the 180-year-old Hungarian Publisher (Akadémiai Kiadó) always used to be a certain pillar.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the thermal community including my co-Editors, the Regional and Associate Editors, the Honorary Members of the Board and last but not least to the huge number of authors and Peer-reviewers (mostly anonymous) who paved the way to the present success of our Journal. Special thanks are due to the Editorial Staff of Lexica Ltd. for their invaluable technical support.

The present number of pages per year is 3900 which means about 600 high-quality papers with an almost 1.5 impact factor.

The publication policy has not changed. All papers go through a very strict peer-reviewing process. Beside regular papers, special issues/chapters and selected papers of international conferences are in the publication schedule of the Journal.

Last but not least let me wish you a wonderful new year for 2009.

Judit Simon
Editor-in-Chief

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