

Editorial

The main objective of the International Journal of Engineering Education is to serve the engineering education community at large. We value our contributors and would like to ensure that their contributions are well-received. However, the rejection rate of manuscripts submitted to the Journal is always a concern. There is no quota for the rejection rate in this Journal, but as it was said in the past, the rejection rate is over 90%. High rejection rates for some may signify high quality, but it also indicates that resources have been wasted.

It is advisable that potential contributors to the International Journal of Engineering Education, and any other journal for that matter, consult the information regarding the scope of the journal and the submission guide provided on the web and in the printed issue. It is a good idea to become familiar with recently published papers as well. Manuscripts submitted to the International Journal of Engineering Education are expected to relate to engineering education and to be succinct. They are also expected, among other things, to provide a critical literature survey, comparisons with work reported in the literature with a similar purpose, and analysis of the impact on teaching and learning when applicable.

It is perhaps useful to remind potential contributors that no particular formatting is required since all accepted manuscripts are copyedited and typeset. However, it is important that the authors follow the style of the Journal, for example in citing their affiliations, citing references within the text and when listing them at the end. To make the manuscript more readable, it is essential that all figures and tables should be suitable for grey-scale printing and no reference to colour be made within the text.

The International Journal of Engineering Education has presented numerous special issues that relate to topics of current interest. This issue is an extra special one; it combines two special issues that could be of interest to numerous readers. The first is on Educational Applications of Product Lifecycle Management Systems, guest-edited by Arturo Molina Gutiérrez, Eduardo González Mendivil, Young B. Moon, and Manuel Contero. Product Lifecycle Management is an integrated approach to all aspects of a product from an idea to its design, manufacturing, maintenance, and its proper disposal. It is important that all engineering students gain familiarity with the approach regardless of their discipline. The second is part two of the special issue on Assessment guest-edited by Gloria Rogers; part one appeared in issue 24-5. It includes numerous papers which we hope that readers will find useful and informative.

I am very grateful to the guest-editors and to all the contributors for their time, effort, and for choosing the International Journal of Engineering Education as a venue for their communications.

Ahmad Ibrahim