

Sesquicentennial Highlights

Pierre Julien

Editor

The sesquicentennial year of the ASCE is drawing to a close, and this editorial reflects on some of the yearly highlights, along with a few words of appreciation and congratulations. A glimpse at the outcome of the 5-year review of the *ASCE Journal of Hydraulic Engineering* finally sets the tone for the forthcoming enhancements of the *Journal*.

Thanks to ASCE Members, Authors, Reviewers, and Associate Editors

This year seems to have gone by faster than ever, and I want to express sincere thanks to a number of people who contribute to the success of the *Journal*. First, I'd like to thank all members of ASCE for their continuing support. Membership in ASCE is a mark of support for excellence in our profession. It is not surprising to see that most active hydraulic engineers are members of the ASCE. We are proud of their endorsement, and we are seeking to extend membership privileges to a larger number of professionals nationwide and abroad.

A comprehensive list of reviewers is presented at the end of this issue, and I want to thank all of them. After 1 year as Editor, I really appreciate the time commitment and effort spent by the reviewers of the *Journal*. The reputation of the *Journal* largely depends on the high quality of the reviews that we receive. The

importance of the peer-review system and the role of external reviewers in improving the readability of all manuscripts cannot be overstated.

The critical role of the Editorial Board in ensuring quality reviews for all papers is equally important, and I appreciate the commitment of all Associate Editors in handling a large load of papers on a continuous basis. The significant amount of time they volunteer to seek the best possible articles for the journal is recognized. This year the Editorial Board has been considering ways to reduce the processing time of all manuscripts while enlarging readership and attracting more forum articles, case-study papers, and book reviews. Collaboration with Jackie Perry and Johanna Reinhart at ASCE has been very productive, and the new format makes the *Journal* particularly attractive to read.

Finally, I am grateful to all the authors for submitting their finest manuscripts to the journal. We acknowledge receiving a large number of articles, and it is always a pleasure to work with authors willing to spend extra time and effort to revise their manuscripts numerous times to gain clarity and concision. We cannot publish articles we do not receive, and there is currently a high demand from our readers for practical design-oriented articles and for state-of-the-art review papers. Authors of practical hydraulic engineering papers are likely to find their articles extremely well received in the *Journal*.

Yearly Highlights and a Glimpse Forward

Some of the highlights in hydraulic engineering this year include the ASCE meeting at Estes Park, Colorado, organized by Cliff



Fig. 1. EWRI President J. Bradley with Hilgard Prize recipients R. Street and E. Zedler

Pugh and coworkers. This well-attended specialty conference featured Rob Ettema with a refreshing Hunter Rouse Lecture on the impact of winter ice on riverbank erosion. Associate Editor Bruce Melville received the Hydraulic Structures Medal and Jorge Matos won the J.C. Stevens Award. Emily Zedler and Robert Street received the Karl Emil Hilgard Award of ASCE from Jeffrey B. Bradley, president of EWRI, Fig. 1. The event also fostered collaboration between ASCE and IAHR.

In the *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, Thanos Papanicolaou prepared a special issue, while another special issue is underway for next year. Associate Editors and ASCE Task Committee members are particularly encouraged to develop forthcoming special issues for the journal.

Several forum articles were also published on a variety of subjects including technical subjects and areas of broad interest to the hydraulic engineering profession. For instance, some of the topics covered in recent forum articles include a review of ASCE Task Committee activities, legal aspects of hydraulic engineering, historical papers, and careers of distinguished leaders. Forum articles are always welcome and can be submitted in electronic format directly to the Editor via e-mail at pierre@engr.colostate.edu.

The recent 5-year review of the ASCE *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering* identified the need from our readers for more practical articles. Consultants and practitioners are strongly encour-

aged to submit brief articles on structural design, operations, and monitoring of hydraulic engineering structures. The *Journal* would largely benefit from case-study articles that cover state-of-the-art hydraulic engineering techniques for the practical design of hydraulic structures. Several practical articles were presented this year with a title starting as "Case study:..." Case-study papers are placed at the forefront of the technical papers of the *Journal*. Our readers would like to see more cutting-edge practical articles, and practitioners should somewhat compete to display their professional achievements in the *Journal*. In order to encourage new submissions, prospective case-study articles can be submitted directly to the Editor in electronic format.

The current strength of the journal lies in high-quality peer-reviewed articles in the field of hydraulics, sedimentation, fluid mechanics, computational fluid dynamics, river engineering, hydraulic structures, and field and laboratory measurement techniques, among many others. Together, we must meet the challenge to enlarge the content of our *Journal*. Among many topics, we would welcome more articles in the emerging areas of contaminant transport, diffusion and dispersion, environmental hydraulics, stream rehabilitation, minimum in-stream flow needs, aquatic habitat, and wetlands. There are opportunities for all of us to disseminate our knowledge on national and international levels in the ASCE *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*. Thank you all for your support, and best wishes for a prosperous new year.