

Annual Review 2003

Pierre Julien

Editor

This editorial reflects on some of the highlights of 2003, along with a few words of appreciation and congratulations, and a glimpse at some of the needs and wishes of ASCE's *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*.

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

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 hydraulic engineering. Most active hydraulic engineers are members of ASCE, and we are proud of their endorsement. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all volunteers in the ASCE organization. The activities of our volunteers are effectively the brain and blood of the society. I want to congratulate and welcome those who joined ASCE this year. We are seeking to extend membership privileges to a larger number of professionals nationwide and abroad.

A comprehensive list of ASCE-*JHE* reviewers is presented at the end of this issue. The list should include all those who reviewed articles during a period of 12 months starting August 2002, and we hope we did not leave anyone out. After 2 years 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 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. This year we want to specifically thank the following reviewers for their outstanding work: Jim Best, A. Borthwick, Curtis Cooper, Ken Edwards, Randall Gentry, Fred Gessner, Steve Monismith, Arthur Schmidt, Peter Steffler, John Trowbridge, Larry Weber, Scott Wells, Steven Wright, John Buffington, and Adrian Law. These individuals are recognized for providing particularly thorough and helpful reviews to the Editorial Board.

The role of the Editorial Board in ensuring quality reviews for our articles is extremely important. I appreciate all the support and commitment of the associate editors in handling timely reviews on a continuous basis. The significant amount of time they volunteer to seek out the best possible articles for the journal is paramount to our success. This year, the Editorial Board has been expanded to meet the high demand and increased number of manuscripts submitted in some areas. We are continuously seeking ways to reduce the processing time of all manuscripts while enlarging readership and attracting more forum articles, case-study papers, and book reviews. Again this year, the collaboration with Jackie Perry, Johanna Reinhart, and the production staff at ASCE has been particularly well coordinated and effective.

Finally, I am grateful to all the authors of the journal for submitting their finest manuscripts. It is always a pleasure to work

with authors willing to spend extra time and effort to revise and improve their manuscripts. We acknowledge receiving a large number of articles. Manuscripts that have been reworked several times gain tremendously in clarity. These substantial articles are pleasant to read and serve as future references. Of course, rewriting manuscripts takes some time, and the patience that the authors exhibit with the review process is greatly appreciated. We are committed to assist authors with timely and constructive reviews.

Yearly Highlights and a Glimpse Forward

Some of the highlights in hydraulic engineering this year include the World Water and Environmental Resources Congress in Philadelphia. This four-day EWRI/ASCE event has been well attended and particularly enjoyable. The "Darcy Memorial Symposium on the History of Hydraulics" and the "Symposium on the Protection and Restoration of Urban and Rural Streams" were held in parallel sessions. The involvement of associate editors Willi Hager and Glenn Brown is worth mention. The awards luncheon was also quite eventful. Rodney Sobey is the recipient of the Karl Emil Hilgard Hydraulic Prize. Sam Shu-Yi Wang received the Hans Albert Einstein Award and Richard Hawkins received the Arid Lands Hydraulic Engineering Award. Pavel Novak was awarded the Hydraulic Structures Medal and Ben Urbonas received the ASCE State-of-the-Art of Civil Engineering Award. George Hecker delivered the 2003 Hunter Rouse Lecture in Hydraulic Engineering. In the related field of hydrology, Norman Crawford received the Ven te Chow Award and Darryl Davis delivered the keynote address in surface water. Congratulations to all the meritorious leaders of our profession!

In the *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, Jacques Delleur edited the April 2003 special issue on the *Hydraulics of Sediment Movement in Urban Drainage Systems*. 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, urban stream restoration and urban hydrology, as well as historical papers.

Articles in very high demand include forum articles, case-study papers, and book reviews. Consultants and practitioners are strongly encouraged to submit brief articles on structural design, operations, and monitoring of hydraulic engineering structures. The journal would welcome more 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 their title starting as "Case study:..." Case-study papers are placed at the forefront of the technical papers in the journal. Our readers would like to see more cutting-edge practical articles, and practitioners should somewhat compete to display their skills and professional achievements in the journal. We cannot publish articles we do not receive, but the authors of prac-

tical hydraulic engineering papers and state-of-the-art review papers will find their articles extremely well received by readers. These types of articles are always welcome, and the review process is usually expedited and carried out at the Editorial Board level. These manuscripts can be submitted in electronic format directly to the editor via e-mail at pierre@engr.colostate.edu.

The citation index for the ASCE *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering* reached 1.0 in 2002, up from 0.3 in 1997. The current strength of the journal lies in high-quality, peer-reviewed articles in the field of computational hydraulics, sedimentation, fluid mechanics, hydraulic structures, environmental hydraulics, computa-

tional fluid dynamics, river engineering, 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, stream rehabilitation, in-stream flow needs, aquatic habitat for endangered species, wetlands, hydraulic engineering education, water rights, and litigation issues. There are opportunities for all of us to share and disseminate our knowledge at national and international levels through the *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*. Thank you all for your support, and best wishes for a prosperous new year.