Greetings from the new Editor-in-Chief

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EDITORIAL

Greetings from the new Editor-in-Chief

Over 14 years ago Mike Baskes recognized the rapidly growing role of modelling and simulation and initiated Modelling and Simulation in Materials Science and Engineering (MSMSE). Mike served as Editor-in-Chief through the journal’s infancy, adolescence, and now adulthood, and has positioned the journal for continued growth. Having accomplished so much, Mike deserves a respite from the on-going work associated with the journal. I am thus very pleased to take over the position of Editor-in-Chief of MSMSE from him, and hope to steward the journal forward on the path that he has firmly established. On behalf of the readers, contributors, staff, and Editorial Board of MSMSE I thank Mike Baskes for his many years of outstanding effort, which has brought the journal to its current fine state.

Modelling and Simulation in Materials Science and Engineering has recently expanded and is now published eight times per year. In addition, the impact factor continues to grow. My goal as Editor-in-Chief is not to try to improve these directly but rather to pursue ever-increasing quality of the papers published. The metrics of ‘success’ should then naturally increase. Quality can be a nebulous concept but it is true that ‘we know it when we see it’. If the Editorial Board and reviewers/readers can uphold solid standards in assessing the value of each paper, and steadily attract an increasing number of high-quality submissions from around the world, then MSMSE can evolve into a favoured journal for publication of new and important results in modelling and simulation.

To improve the process of publication, the Executive Editorial Board of MSMSE has recently approved a new procedure for handling the reviewing of submissions that engages the Executive Board more actively. By spreading the effort among the Board, authors should benefit through further reductions in the time from submission to publication. The publisher, Institute of Physics Publishing (IOPP), is also performing more of the administrative duties in-house and improving the online handling of submissions, permitting Editors and reviewers to focus on quality rather than paperwork. As a not-for-profit institution, IOPP works with us solely for the benefit of the journal’s constituency. These administrative changes put the journal in an excellent position for future success.

I look forward to working with the IOPP staff and the Editorial Board. I ask for the forbearance of all as I learn the ropes and I encourage you to continue to submit your best work for publication in MSMSE.

Bill Curtin, Brown University, USA