

Editorial

In this editorial, I would like to reflect briefly on the present situation concerning the efforts of the World Institute for Engineering and Technology Education (WIETE) in promoting engineering and technology education globally. The 2008 global financial crisis has negatively impacted on the world's engineering and technology education; however, certain regions have continued to promote engineering and technology, hoping that it would stimulate their economies. Therefore, over the last few years, one particular focus of the WIETE and members of its network was on the activities being carried out in the Asia-Pacific region and in Europe. The present political and social upheaval in Europe due to the so-called *Brexit* has further complicated the world's situation as education is always the last thing on the minds of politicians in such circumstances. Nevertheless, we should be positive and continue our efforts despite the fact that there seem to be tremendous difficulties ahead.

The *7th WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education* and the *4th Mediterranean Seminar on Engineering and Technology Education* was organised jointly by the WIETE and the Mediterranean Centre for Engineering and Technology Education (MCETE) and held at Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (PUAS), Piraeus-Athens, Greece. Following the success of this event, the WIETE is now supporting our colleagues in the Faculty of Architecture at Cracow University of Technology (CUT), Kraków, Poland, in their efforts to stage the *International Conference on New Building Technologies and Architectural Design - NBTAD 2016*.

Work is currently in progress on this event, which will be held between 13 and 14 October 2016. The Conference will comprise three panels: *Architecture and Construction*; *Landscape Design*; and *Education of Architects and Engineers*. All three panels are being championed by Professor Sabina Kuc of the CUT Faculty of Architecture, with the support of Professor Waław Celadyn, Director of the CUT Institute of Civil Engineering Design, the Conference General Chairman. The WIETE is to have an involvement in the *Education of Architects and Engineers* panel, and I would like to invite our readers to participate, and to propose a paper to be presented in this panel. It is envisaged that good quality papers accepted for presentation in this panel will be published in the *Global Journal of Engineering Education (GJEE)*, Vol.18, No.3. More information can be found in the Conference announcement on the WIETE's main Web page (www.wiete.com.au).

Ever with an eye to the future, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that work has commenced on organising the *8th WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education* under the overarching theme *Bringing Engineering and Technology Educators Together*. The Conference will be held between 20 and 24 February 2017 at Cinnamon Residence in Bangkok, Thailand. The prime objective of the Conference is to bring together partners, members, associates, supporters and friends of the WIETE from all over the world, and to continue discussions on issues of importance to engineering and technology education. It is envisaged that papers accepted for the Conference will be published in the *WTE&TE*, Vol.14, No.4. I would like to invite our colleagues to attend the Conference and present a paper. Interested parties will find the Conference announcement, including a call for contributions, at: <http://www.wiete.com.au/conferences/8wiete/index.html>

The current issue of the *WTE&TE*, marked Vol.14, No.2, consists of 15 enlightening articles. In releasing it, I wish to thank our Taiwanese colleagues for their considerable input to this issue through their contribution of 12 of the articles published. The efforts of colleagues from the National Changhua University of Education (NCUE), based in Changhua, Taiwan, should be particularly noted. We have had comprehensive collaboration with the NCUE in the past and enjoyed a partnership with this University.

Finally, I would like to express my profound gratitude to all the authors of these articles for their contributions, and thank several referees for their work in providing referees' reports. Also, my heartfelt thanks are directed toward the members of the WIETE editorial team, Dr Dianne Q. Nguyen, Mrs Dorota I. Pudlowski and Dr Ian R. Dobson, for their exceptional work in preparing this issue for publication.

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