

## Editorial

The World Institute for Engineering and Technology Education (WIETE) held its *8th WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education* under the theme *Bringing Engineering and Technology Educators Together* between 20 and 24 February 2017 at Cinnamon Residence in Bangkok, Thailand. About 30 WIETE members, associates and sympathisers registered to attend the Conference. As in previous years, the Opening Ceremony was held on the second day of the Conference, on Tuesday, 21 February 2017, with the WIETE Director, Professor Zenon J. Pudlowski presiding. Welcome speeches were delivered by Professor Andrew Nafalski of the University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia, President of the WIETE-IAAC; Professor Adinarayana Kalanidhi, Vice-Chairman of the Commonwealth Science and Technology Academy for Research (C-STAR), Chennai, India, the Immediate Past-President of WIETE-IAAC; and Professor Robert Špaček, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia, Vice-President, WIETE-IAAC. Subsequently, during the Opening Addresses Session, these three senior members of the WIETE executive delivered their addresses, with Professor Sabina Kuc of Cracow University of Technology, Poland, presiding over this Session.

An editorial decision was to publish Conference paper contributions in two consecutive issues of the World Transactions on Engineering and Technology Education (WTE&TE). Some articles appeared in Vol.14, No.4 (2016) and Vol.15, No.1 contains the remaining articles presented at the Conference along with some regular articles submitted for publication in this issue. This issue of the WTE&TE includes 15 articles that have come from countries, such as the Taiwan (4), Indonesia (3), Poland (3), the United Arab Emirates (2), and one article from each of Australia, Canada and the United States of America.

Work is in full swing on the organisation of the *5th Mediterranean Seminar on Engineering and Technology Education* to take place at the Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (PUAS) in Piraeus-Athens, Greece, between 11 and 15 September 2017. The Seminar is being organised jointly by the World Institute for Engineering and Technology Education (WIETE) and the PUAS's Mediterranean Centre for Engineering and Technology Education (MCE&TE), under the Patronage of the President of the PUAS (TEI-Piraeus), Professor Lazaros Vrizidis. The Seminar will air, address and discuss fundamental issues, problems, opportunities and challenges that contemporary academia faces in an effort to prepare future technologists and engineers capable of taking on the increasingly advanced, complex and sophisticated technology and production processes. Also, several significant objectives are being pursued by the MCE&TE in order to cultivate the knowledge and skills essential for high quality maritime and environmental engineering and technology education.

WIETE members, associates and sympathisers are cordially invited to propose a paper and attend the Seminar. The Seminar announcement, including a call for paper and other contributions, can be found at the following address: <http://www.wiete.com.au/conferences/5msete/index.html>

It is my pleasure to thank the authors for their treasured contributions to the WIETE Annual Conference and I look forward to receiving their valuable contributions to the forthcoming Seminar. I wish to express my gratitude to the WIETE editorial team that on this occasion included Dr Dianne Q. Nguyen, Mrs Dorota I. Pudlowski and Dr Ian R. Dobson, for their assistance in the publication of this issue. Also, sincere thanks are extended to the referees for their expeditious assessment of the articles.

**Zenon J. Pudlowski**