IEEE Sensors Journal Progress Report

Brief History

The IEEE Sensors Journal has made great progress since its inception in June 2001. During its first two years, Founding Editor-in-Chief, Vladimir Lumelsky, worked with the publications staff of the Signal Processing Society to produce the first 12 issues. I assumed the role of EIC in August 2003 as our staff support moved to the Lasers and Electro-Optics Society (LEOS). Since January 2004, Linda Matarazzo, Publications Director for LEOS, has been managing the staff support for our Journal. During my last five years, the Journal has continued to expand. The total pages printed each year are as follows:

2001: 400 (initially four printed issues)
2002: 720 (six printed issues thereafter)
2003: 888
2004: 916
2005: 1526
2006: 1790
2007: 1819 (online monthly, six printed collections)
2008: 2000 estimated

Editorial Board

There were 49 active editors as of July 2008. The entire membership of the Editorial Board is listed on the inside front cover of every printed issue. Publishing decisions are made by the Associate Editor (AE) to whom a submitted manuscript is assigned. The AEs solicit reviewers and manage the evaluation of manuscripts using Manuscript Central, the Institute's online manuscript processing system. Six of the editors are designated as Senior Editors (John Vig, Michiel Vellekoop, Ignacio Matias, Evgeny Katz, Ralph Etienne-Cummings, and Gert Cauwenberghs). They handle special projects and advise the Editor-in-Chief. The Editorial Board meets once each year in conjunction with the IEEE SENSORS Conference. The Board reviews publication policies and makes recommendations for improving the Journal's operations.

Progress since July 2007

1) Several members of the Editorial Board completed their terms and we appointed 10 new Associate editors.

2) Drs. Ralph Etienne-Cummings and Ignacio Matias were appointed Senior Editors.

3) We published four special issues (In Vivo Sensors for Medicine, Sensors for Microfluidic Analysis Systems, Nanosensors for defense and Security, and Optical Fiber Sensors).

4) We posted a guide for preparing Sensors Letters on our website.

5) We presented the first annual IEEE Sensors Journal Best Paper Award at the IEEE SENSORS Conference in Atlanta.

Future Plans

1) The Board will continue to solicit review and tutorial papers in areas within the technical scope of the Journal. Reviews and tutorial papers bring to the Journal useful information on both the theory and applications of various sensor types. Providing such information in IEEE journals has been widely endorsed by the publishing administrative bodies of the Institute.

2) The Journal expects to transition to a new version of Manuscript Central (version 4) very soon. At that time, we will be able to update our database of several thousand reviewers. This will allow the Editorial Board to maintain closer ties to all the volunteer reviewers who contribute so freely their time and expertise to ensure the quality of the Journal.

Concluding Remarks

The IEEE Sensors Journal has become a leading publication in the sensors field. If IEEE members and other readers of the Journal have suggestions for improvement, please send them to me.

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