
From the Editor

Global Leadership Responsibilities

As a subscriber, you have probably noticed the increased number of published papers in each issue as we have seen a fourfold increase in paper submissions to the IJMC this past year. This has translated into a doubling of the number of papers published in each issue. This upward trend continues with this first issue for 2017 and is a result of

The goal of the IJMC also aligns with the Mission Statement of the American Foundry Society.

AFS MISSION STATEMENT—*the American Foundry Society exists to provide and promote knowledge and services that strengthen the metalcasting industry for the ultimate benefit of its customers and society.*

Leading the Transfer of Research and Technology for the Global MetalCasting Industry.

the collaboration between the IJMC and the World Foundry Organization (WFO). This issue features (18) invited extended papers from the 72nd World Foundry Congress (WFC2016) held May 2016 in Nagoya, Japan. The designation of the IJMC as the “Official Research Journal of the WFO” has allowed us to work towards our goal of *Leading the Transfer of Research and Technology for the Global Global Metalcasting Industry.*

This leadership role includes the responsibility to provide valuable resources to our subscribers and our metalcasting society in a timely manner. With that responsibility in mind, subscribers that use the IJMC SpringerLinks online website will notice that our entire library of past and current volumes and issues are accessible and searchable at: <http://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/40962>. But what you may not have noticed is

the material contained in *Online First*. At <http://www.springer.com/materials/special+types/journal/40962>, there are currently (38) papers (as of this writing) in this repository. *Online First* (the link tab is located along the right margin) will allow you access the section that contains all papers that have been accepted for publication and await assignment to a specific issue. This is an abundant resource in that it allows our subscribers to have immediate access to the latest information prior to publication in the IJMC. (Non-subscribers have free access to the abstracts and may purchase downloads.)

In addition, a select group of author-designated IJMC published papers (*Open Access*) are available freely online to anyone, anywhere at any time via the link: <http://link.springer.com/search?query=&search-within=Journal&facet-journal-id=40962&package=openaccess-articles>.

The increased accessibility to the latest technical publications is all part of our goal of ensuring the timely transfer of metalcasting information. This effort would not be possible

without the assistance of our authors and paper reviewers. A special note of thanks goes out to the WFC2016 Organizing Committee (Chair-Dr. Shoji Kiguchi), the WFC2016 Scientific Committee (Chair-Prof. Kazunori Asano, Kinki University) and the members of the Japanese Foundry Engineering Society (JFES) who assisted in the selection and review process.

We look forward to the 73rd World Foundry Congress currently being organized by the Polish Foundrymen's Association to be held September 23–27, 2018 in Krakow, Poland.

