Transactions on Education – February Editorial

Transactions on Education in the new decade

A new year always brings new challenges and opportunities and 2020 is no different for the IEEE Transactions on Education. In keeping with the start of a new decade some of the changes are quite major.

For the first time, if you are reading this, then you can only be doing so online. The print edition, which dropped a yellow and green book through letterboxes and to in-trays world-wide four-times a year is no more. Although a major change in the way the IEEE Transactions on Education is delivered it does present a number of opportunities. For example, we will no longer be charging a fee for colour images. We have also reconsidered the page lengths of articles. It has always been a stated aim of the Transactions that papers make a succinct contribution to the body of knowledge, but in some areas, most notably the scholarship of integration the 6- to 8-page limit is restrictive. As work in this area considers involves synthesis of information across disciplines, across topics within a discipline, or across time, for example systematic reviews, it is typified by the presentation of large datasets and often large numbers of references. Therefore, from now on, in this area of scholarship only, we will accept papers that are up to 10 pages. We will continue to review the page limits in other areas and I would welcome comments or suggestions from the community on what would be welcomed by authors and readers alike.

There are also changes in the team managing the Transactions. For the twelve years, Dr Kirsty Mills has been the Editorial Administrator for the IEEE Transactions on Education. Any author that has published in the transactions will have corresponded with her and I have no doubt will vouch for the care she took in help authors prepare their papers for publication and the advice she would give, on how to navigate the submission systems, but also on how to improve the presentation of the work. When I joined the Transactions just over a year ago her guidance was invaluable. She has given great service to the IEEE Transactions on Education and the Education Society and I think it only right we recognize and thank her publicly for that contribution.

As the Editor-in-Chief but also as I member of the Education Society I look forward to joining colleagues at the conferences and networking events that are held throughout the year. We are aiming to hold sessions at a number of international events through the course of the year to promote the Transactions but also to help and advice authors and potential authors on how to ensure their work has the best possible change of getting published in the IEEE Transactions on Education.

As technologies are become mature and new and innovative engineering school as being developed worldwide it is an exciting time to work in engineering education. I look forward to seeing the work of the community submitted to the Transactions in the year.

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