

2nd WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education

Preface

These Conference Proceedings include contributions of papers submitted for the 2nd *WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education*, under the theme *Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education*, to be held at Seri Place Hotel in Pattaya, Thailand, between 25 and 28 January 2011 by the World Institute for Engineering and Technology Education (WIETE).

These Proceedings include 16 fully peer-reviewed interesting and meaningful papers from authors based in 7 countries, worldwide. The papers cover a wide range of issues, topics, ideas, problems and challenges faced by academics involved in engineering and technology education in their effort to pursue innovation and best practice in this field of academic endeavour. It is pleasing to see that several articles address multi-disciplinary matters to promote and encourage cross-faculty research, development and co-operation.

Since its inception, the World Institute for Engineering and Technology Education (WIETE) has made considerable progress in pursuing its mission to advance continued growth and evolution in knowledge and understanding in engineering and technology education by publishing strictly refereed international articles in the field, thereby benefiting society by providing the next generation of engineers and technologists with a greater knowledge of educational methods, under the prevailing motto: *Serving the International Engineering and Technology Community*.

Based on extensive experience gained earlier in conducting research, development and promotional activities in the international arena through various organisations, the principal strategy of the WIETE is to create an independent, interactive and friendly international environment in which academics, industry leaders and members of the global community can freely express their views and develop ideas without prejudice or discrimination. Hence, to bring together members and associates of the WIETE, as well as other international academics, to identify and discuss challenges and opportunities for the WIETE and its global operation, and set the intellectual foundation for its further development is the paramount aim of this Conference. To share new ideas, discuss the needs for innovation and air the critical issues of importance for engineering and technology education, are also the objectives of this Conference.

I have real pleasure in expressing our sincere gratitude to the authors of these papers for their willingness to share their research achievements and to the referees, who have committed their precious time to reviewing the papers included in these Proceedings. Also, I would like to thank Dr Elena A. Danilova, Dr Ian R. Dobson, Ms Dianne Q. Nguyen and Ms Krystyna Wareing for their invaluable assistance in preparing these Proceedings for publication.

Zenon J. Pudlowski