

Editorial

Preparations are in full swing for the *7th WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education* and the *4th Mediterranean Seminar on Engineering and Technology Education*, to be conducted in tandem under the lead theme *Educating for the Global Community* at Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (TEI-Piraeus) in Athens, Greece, between 4 and 8 April 2016. Professor George Metaxas of TEI-Piraeus and his team are responsible for local preparations and have received about forty expressions of interest and paper proposals from as far afield as South Africa, China, US/Canada and Panama. A Preliminary Conference Programme has been developed and circulated to potential paper presenters, participants and accompanying persons, based on the abstracts of papers that have been accepted.

Apart from two opening addresses and numerous regular papers, the programme features three special presentations in which speakers will showcase *Research and Development Activities in Engineering and Technology Education*, carried out in their institutions, including the Faculty of Architecture, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia; the Department of Aviation at the College of Engineering, Abu Dhabi University, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates and Cracow University of Technology, Kraków, Poland. Although under the same theme, the presentations will demonstrate different approaches and undertakings, relevant to their local environments, industrial and social needs. Those wishing to receive a copy of the Preliminary Programme should contact the Conference Secretariat.

It is our intention to publish the accepted conference papers in two issues of the *World Transactions on Engineering and Technology Education (WTE&TE)* with Prof. George Metaxas of TEI-Piraeus as the Guest Editor. The first of these issues (Vol.14, No.1) will be published before the Conference in late-March 2016, and the second (Vol.14, No.2) by the end of June 2016.

I would like to reiterate our standing invitation to readers who may still wish to attend the Conference and present their contributions to this gathering of international academics dedicated to engineering and technology education. We can still accommodate a few paper presentations as they come in. Those interested in attending should refer to the call for articles on the WIETE Web site at the following address: www.wiete.com.au

In this issue of the *WTE&TE* (Vol.13, No.4), readers will find 38 articles, most of which have come from mainland China. The articles deal with issues, concepts and ideas relevant to contemporary China as Chinese higher engineering and technology education has been undergoing a complex educational reform in recent times. With the rapid expansion of its industrial base, as well as the influx of modern technologies and production processes, China continues to modernise and develop its human resources, equipping them with the capacity to serve the ever-growing industrial and social needs.

I wish to acknowledge with thanks the great efforts of the editorial team, Dr Dianne Q. Nguyen, Mrs Dorota I. Pudlowski, Ms Krystyna B. Wareing and Dr Ian R. Dobson. I would also like to thank the authors of the articles for their willingness to publish in the *WTE&TE*, as well as several members of the editorial team for their efforts in refereeing the submitted articles.

In providing readers with this issue, we hope that they will find the articles to be of great interest and beneficial to their future research and development undertakings in engineering and technology education.

Zenon J. Pudlowski