

Editorial

The European summer saw two WIETE international gatherings of academics. The first of these was the 2019 *Conference on Engineering and Architecture Design Education (EADE-2019)*, held at Cracow University of Technology, Kraków, Poland, between 3 and 7 June 2019. The second was the *7th Mediterranean Seminar on Engineering and Technology Education*, held between 9 and 13 September 2019 at the University of West Attica (UNIWA) in Piraeus-Athens, Greece, with the WIETE joining forces with the UNIWA's Mediterranean Centre for Engineering and Technology Education (MCETE) in the organisation and conduct of this Seminar.

The two events experienced the highest number of participants so far, with close to 60 attending the Conference in Kraków and close to 40 at the Seminar in Athens. Selected high-quality papers presented at the meetings will be published in two consecutive issues of the *World Transactions on Engineering and Technology Education (WTE&TE)* Vol.17, No.3 and No.4, with most of the papers presented at the Seminar being included in this issue. This issue of the WTE&TE, includes 33 highly informative and stimulating papers coming from such countries as Chile, Greece, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain and the United Arab Emirates.

Four highly enlightening papers were presented at the Seminar Opening Addresses Session including one authored by Professor George Metaxas, Ms Georgia Cheirchanteri and Ms Eleftheria Metaxa of the University of West Attica, entitled *New university from the merger of two technological educational institutes - a major step in higher education reforms*. This was followed by a paper authored by Professor Andrzej Białkiewicz, Vice-Rector at Cracow University of Technology, Kraków, Poland, entitled *Propaedeutics of teaching drawing to architects*. Next was *Teaching and learning for technology in South African rural high schools*, presented by Mr Donald M. Makhubele, Dr Sibongile Simelane-Mnisi and Professor Moses Makgato of Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa. The final paper in the Opening Addresses Session was by Professor Lucyna Nyka, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture at Gdańsk University of Technology, Gdańsk, Poland, entitled *Designing for the future: interaction between academic and non-academic institutions for the advancement of architectural education*. These presentations set the stage for a useful and revealing discussion. There were also four special sessions staged to provide the opportunity for multi-member university delegations to present their institution's research and development activities and achievements, which were leading to further discussion, and this format was particularly well received by the audience.

It is with great pleasure that I commend Professor George Metaxas, Director of the MCETE and his team for the support they provided to the organisation and conduct of this Seminar. Several international participants commented on the excellent atmosphere at the Seminar that was conducive to useful debates and individual interaction. So much so was their impression of the efficiency and friendliness of the Seminar that they expressed their strong desire to come back to the UNIWA next year for the *8th Mediterranean Seminar on Engineering and Technology Education*, hopefully to be held in September 2020. This may be a draw card for the UNIWA in their quest for international promotion of the University, the third largest in Greece.

My particular thanks are directed to the authors of the articles included in this issue for their willingness to share their research and development achievements with likeminded colleagues. Sincere gratitude goes to the international referees who reviewed and assessed the articles expediently under considerable time pressure.

I also wish to acknowledge and salute the members of the WIETE editorial team that consist of colleague Dr Dianne Q. Nguyen, Mrs Dorota I. Pudlowski, Mrs Krystyna Wareing, Mr Nial Wareing, Dr Ian R. Dobson and Professor Robert Špaček for their assistance in the preparation of this issue.

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