

Editorial

This issue of the World Transactions on Engineering and Technology Education (WTE&TE), marked Vol.18, No.1, occurs at a difficult time for the world with the recent coronavirus outbreak in China, the spread of the virus to several other countries, including Thailand. In view of this situation, we have decided to postpone the 11th WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education, to be held in Bangkok at Cinnamon Residence that was scheduled for 10 and 14 February 2020. The decision has not been taken lightly, but considering that safety and security of the participants is our supreme priority, we needed to postpone the Conference to ensure the highest possible safety standards for all potential participants.

Several colleagues, concerned about the safety and security of conference participants, expressed their strong support for this decision. Also, the General Manager of Cinnamon Residence in Bangkok, was very supportive and cooperative in this matter, even though the tourist business in Thailand is already very much affected by this misfortune. After subsequent consultations with the General Manager, we decided on new dates for the 11th WIETE Annual Conference on Engineering and Technology Education. The Conference is now to be held from 16 to 20 November 2020. We sincerely hope that by that time, the virus-related danger for travellers to Thailand will be minimised, the virus neutralised and Bangkok fully open for tourism and business. Moreover, November is usually the best month to visit Thailand as the climate then is very pleasant.

Despite this adversity, I wish to emphasise that our publication plans have not changed and the WIETE journals will be published on time, and other international meetings will be carried out as scheduled. Hence, the release of the first issue of the WTE&TE, Vol.18, No.1 in 2020, includes 13 highly informative articles, dealing predominantly with architectural engineering education, are envisaged to be presented at the impending WIETE Annual Conference. The other plans of the WIETE for 2020 include the 2020 Conference on Engineering and Architecture Design Education (EADE-2020) to be held in the Faculty of Architecture at Gdańsk University of Technology, Gdańsk, Poland, between 15 and 19 June 2020, and the 8th Mediterranean Seminar on Engineering and Technology Education, scheduled for Athens, Greece, between 14 and 18 September 2020. Interested persons will find more information concerning the WIETE international meetings on the WIETE home page.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the authors of the articles included in this issue for their commitment to engineering and technology education, which is demonstrated in their thought-provoking articles. I am also in debt to the referees who reviewed and assessed the articles, and the members of the WIETE editorial team (Dr Dianne Q. Nguyen, Mrs Dorota I. Pudlowski, Mrs Krystyna Wareing, Mr Nial Wareing, Dr Ian R. Dobson and Prof. Robert Špaček) for their assistance in the preparation of this issue.

Zenon J. Pudlowski