

## Editorial

I am delighted to inform our readers that the 2024 Conference on Engineering and Architecture Design Education (EADE-2024) was held in the Faculty of Architecture and Design at Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia, between 10 and 12 June 2024. There were seven opening addresses in two consecutive sessions followed by discussions. Over twenty regular papers were presented with excellent engagement from the audience. The majority of the papers addressed aspects of the Conference topics with a strong focus on architectural education as a specific branch of engineering, and the Conference provided the participants with ample opportunity to interact with the speakers and other participants on many aspects of engineering and architecture design education. The Conference was an excellent opportunity to exchange views, discuss issues on architecture and technology education, expand contacts, and for some participants to negotiate future co-operative agreements.

It was also an opportunity to discuss authorship and publishing issues during an open, special session dedicated to that topic. During the session, it was emphasised that the sky-rocketing number of new publishers and new journal titles extends the publishing offer for the potential author, but the offer may come with a threat of predatory publishing and no editorial value. In this environment, authors have to decide on the best publishing option that matches their potential and ambition, and complies with their institution's requirements. Also, it was highlighted that scholarly, well-established publishers operate in a volatile, ever-changing environment. They are currently flooded by AI-generated or enhanced article submissions, plagiarism, and other forms of academic article-related misdemeanour that raise ethical issues and call for recommendations and standards, such as the wide-ranging guidelines by the Committee on Publication Ethics.

A meeting of the WIETE International Academic Advisory Committee (WIETE-IAAC) gathering several senior members of the WIETE executive, as well as members of the journals' editorial boards preceded the Conference. The meeting discussion focused on individual universities and their policies regarding AI, and was widened by the inclusion of other ethical issues, such as plagiarism, paper (article) mills and authorship matters. Briefly were also discussed other agenda points, such as the present status of the WIETE and its journals, including their Scopus ratings, membership drives and potential international conferences and other events. It is believed that the meeting set an excellent stage for the EADE-2024 Conference deliberations. It is hoped that such meetings will take place on a regular basis, and would precede WIETE-organised conferences, thus providing an excellent input into conference deliberations.

This issue of the WTE&TE, marked as Vol.22, No.3, consist of 12 research articles, which demonstrate research progress in various areas of engineering and technology education, as well as individual and group achievements in this area of academic endeavour. On this occasion, the articles - some of which were presented at the EADE-2024 Conference - come from ten countries, worldwide. Three articles come from Slovakia, and two articles from South Africa. One article each come from Indonesia, Kazakhstan and Poland, and four joint articles come from the following countries: one article from three countries - Indonesia, New Zealand and Taiwan; and three articles resulting from co-operation between two different countries: one from Kazakhstan and Turkey; one from Poland and Israel; and one from Poland and the United Kingdom. We are delighted to see more collaborative articles coming to our journal.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks the authors of the articles included in this issue for their enthusiasm in sharing their research and development achievements with other international colleagues, and the international referees who reviewed and assessed the articles in an efficient time period. My sincere thanks also go to the WIETE editorial team for their assistance in the preparation of this issue.

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