<u>**IEEE Sensors Journal 2006-07 Progress Report**</u>

Brief History

The IEEE Sensors Journal has made great progress since its inception in June 2001.
During its first two years, Founding Editor in Chief (EIC), Vladimir Lumelsky, worked
with the publications staff of the Signal Processing Society to produce the first 12 issues.
I assumed the role of EIC in August 2003 as our staff support moved to the Lasers and
Electro-Optics Society (LEOS). Since January, 2004, Linda Matarazzo, Publications
Director for LEOS, has been managing the staff support for our Journal. During its first
six years, the Journal has continued to expand. The total pages printed each year are as
follows:

      2001: 400 (initially four issues)
      2002: 720 (six issues thereafter)
      2003: 888
      2004: 916
      2005: 1526
      2006: 1790
      2007: 2000 estimated

Editorial Board

There were 54 active Associate Editors (AEs) as of December 31, 2006. Publishing
decisions are made by the Associate Editor to whom a submitted manuscript is assigned.
The AEs solicit reviewers and manage the evaluation of manuscripts using Manuscript
Central, the Institute's online manuscript processing system. Four of the AEs are
designated as Senior Editors (John Vig, Michiel Vellekoop, Evgeny Katz, and Gert
Cauwenberghs). They handle special projects and advise the EIC. The Editorial Board
meets once each year in conjunction with the IEEE SENSORS Conference. The Board
reviews publication policies and makes recommendations for improving the Journal's
operations.

Progress in 2006

Last year, several improvements were made:
   1) We expanded the Editorial Board from 37 to 54 members.
   2) We cleared our queue of accepted papers awaiting publication. We did this by
expanding the size of our bimonthly issues to approximately 300 pages and temporarily
halting the publication of special issues.
   3) We created a new Sensors Letters section for rapidly getting new technologies
before our readership. Sensors Letters are limited to two printed pages and jump to the
front of our accepted-paper publishing queue.
   4) We implemented a new "Revise and Resubmit" publishing decision for
manuscripts needing major revision. This action was taken to return the manuscript to
authors so that they can complete the revisions in a manner that it appropriate for their
research and fits their time schedule.

5) We developed a set of guidelines to help authors of conference papers in their efforts to prepare expanded versions of their papers for submission to the Journal. These guidelines have been posed on our website (http://www.ieee.org/sensors/sj) and are expected to clarify, for both our authors and reviewers, the standards by which expanded conference papers are being judged.

Plans for 2007

At its meeting in October 2006, the Editorial Board suggested several actions and new initiatives for 2007.

1) The Journal will publish monthly online issues and bimonthly printed collections of two issues beginning January 2007. This will allow us to get manuscripts published more rapidly. Secondly, in 2007 we will resume publishing special issues. A special issue on intelligent sensors will appear later in the year. Several other special issues have been announced. Their Call for Papers are available on our website.

3) The Board wants to update and revise the 18 categories of our Editors Information Classification Scheme (EDICS). This is a project carried over from 2006. Subcommittees of the Board are being formed to review each category. A revised EDICS for the Journal will be ready later this year.

4) The Board will continue to solicit review and tutorial papers in areas within the technical scope of the Journal. Reviews and tutorial papers bring to the Journal useful information on both the theory and applications of various sensor types. Providing such information in IEEE journals has been widely endorsed by the publishing administrative bodies of the Institute.

5) The Board will prepare a guideline for Guideline for Sensors Letters submissions, patterned after the set of guidelines recently completed for expanded conference papers.

6) We plan to establish an annual IEEE Sensors Journal Best Paper Award for presentation at the annual IEEE SENSORS Conference.

7) The Journal expects to transition to a new version of Manuscript Central (version 3.5) by mid 2007. At that time, we will be able to update our database of several thousand reviewers. This will allow the Board to maintain closer ties to all the volunteer reviewers who contribute so freely their time and expertise to ensure the quality of the Journal.

Concluding Remarks

The IEEE Sensors Journal has become a leading publication in the sensors field. If IEEE members and other readers of the Journal have suggestions for improvement, please send them to the EIC.

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