EDITORIAL

Editorial: Journal of Scheduling (2022)

Edmund Burke[1]

The last year has been another challenging period for us all as the world has continued to come to terms with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In last year's Editorial, I noted how approaches to scientific engagement have changed as virtual methods of working have become more and more pronounced. This has continued throughout 2021. During this period, the Journal of Scheduling has continued to play a key role in disseminating world-leading interdisciplinary scheduling research across theory and practice.

The Journal has continued to go from strength to strength. The Thompson Reuters impact factor has increased from 1.765 to 1.802. During the year, we had 186 new submissions, leading to 41 regular papers and yielding an acceptance rate of 22%. We had 13 Open Access articles. During the pandemic, we have seen our review processing times increase but we are working hard to improve this for next year. Our figures for 2021 were:

- Average time from submission to first decision: 170 days
- Average time from submission to final decision: 236 days

Colleagues at Springer have analyzed the profile of our articles since 2019. The institutions and countries who have contributed the highest number of articles in that period (by the affiliation of the corresponding author) can be outlined as follows:

Top Contributing Institutions (2019–2021)

- Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel: 5 Articles
- TU Wien, Austria: 4 Articles
- Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland: 4 Articles
- Poznań University of Technology, Poland: 4 Articles

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- University of Wuppertal, Germany: 4 Articles

Top Contributing Countries (2019–2021)

- China: 21 Articles
- Germany: 20 Articles
- France: 17 Articles
- USA: 16 Articles
- Israel: 10 Articles
- United Kingdom: 10 Articles

Since 2014, we have seen a consistently increasing trend of article downloads. It is pleasing to note that 2021 represented another significant increase. The figures are:

2015: 38,660
2016: 42,508
2017: 47,943
2018: 51,120
2019: 54,895
2020: 60,881
2021: 65,325

These figures demonstrate an increasing interest in the work of the Journal and this success is due to the hard work of a number of people. I would like to express my deep thanks to the Associate Editors and reviewers; their commitment maintains the Journal's high scientific standards. I am fortunate in having such an outstanding editorial and reviewing community. I am grateful to our colleagues at Springer who make such a magnificent contribution to the Journal, particularly Mangayarkarasi Lakshmiram, Subhashini Gopal, Karthikeyan Sekaran, and Matthew Amboy. I am looking forward to continuing to work with you all in 2022. I would like to close this Editorial by expressing my gratitude to all our authors and readers. Thank you!

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