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Jeffrey Miller

## Quality and Quantity

As you hold this issue of the *ITS Magazine* in your hand, you probably already notice a difference from the previous issues of the magazine. There are 13 papers in this issue compared to at most five papers that we have had published in any previous issue! With the increased quantity of papers, we have not compromised any quality—all of the papers have still gone through the same rigorous peer review as all of the other published papers in the magazine.

Through the process of putting this issue together, I couldn't help but think about other publications I have seen that publish a large number of papers compared to ones that do not. Our *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems* has been doing extremely well, increasing the page budget each year for the past few years while still remaining as the journal with the highest impact factor in the transportation sector. The reason for this has nothing to do with the papers being published having less quality, but rather more papers are being submitted, pushing the quality of the papers higher and allowing more papers to be accepted that match the quality desired by the editorial team.

Conferences are notorious for having lower acceptance rates than journals and magazines, but the IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (ITSC) and Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV) both have published papers that are in the top 5% of cited papers in the transportation world. The Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems Telecommunications (ITST) is quickly emerging as an influential venue for authors of high quality papers, drawing publications from all around the world. Perhaps when looking at possible venues for publishing, one ought not to look solely at acceptance rate as a metric but rather where key researchers around the world choose to publish. If you look at world-renowned researchers in ITS, such as Mohan Trivedi, Petros Ioannou, Markos Papageorgiou, Alberto Broggi, Matt Barth, Tsuneo Takahashi, Umit Ozguner, and many others, you will see that they all publish in ITSS-related conferences and publications. So instead of looking at impact factor or citation indexes when evaluating where to publish a paper, perhaps another measure could be based on the influence and reputation of the authors who publish in that venue.

The papers we have published in this issue come from three different areas. This is a special issue from ITSC 2012 held in Anchorage, Alaska, a special issue from ITST 2012 held in Taipei, Taiwan, and an issue consisting of papers submitted directly to the magazine. The two conferences solicited authors of papers that received top reviews to submit an expanded version of their papers to the *ITS Magazine*. The papers then went through the same review process any other paper submitted to the magazine would experience, and the accepted papers are published here. The quality of these papers are definitely among the top of all the papers I have read in the *ITS Magazine* since its conception.

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Do not forget to listen to the latest ITS Podcast at <http://itsp.cicei.com/> which also reports on latest advancements in ITS. Last but not least, this is the time to renew your IEEE ITSS membership to stay

connected with the world largest professional community in engineering for the sake of humanity.

Sincerely,



Christoph Stiller  
President IEEE ITSS

ITS

## EDITOR'S COLUMN *(continued from page 3)*

I think this is a tremendous way to conclude a great year for the ITS Society.

Since many of you have inquired as to the status of the *ITS Magazine* receiving an impact factor, I am pleased to let you know that this issue marks the end of a three year probationary period that is required before receiving an impact factor. Any publication with an impact factor must have on-time publication based on an agreed-upon schedule for at least three years before being eligible for an impact factor. This is the twelfth straight issue over the past three years to be published on-time, mean-

ing that we are now eligible for an impact factor. I have been in touch with the publication department at IEEE to make sure that we are on the list to receive one as soon as possible in 2014. I will keep you all posted as to the status in the 2014 issues.

We are adding another new column in this issue spotlighting an ITS Research Lab. Brendan Morris, a professor at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, will be the editor of this column. Brendan is a very active member in the ITS Society, and he has started off this column with spotlighting the research lab at UC Riverside under the leadership of our next

ITSS President, Matt Barth. I think this will be a very enjoyable column to read in each issue, and I'm looking forward to how this column develops in the future. I hope you all enjoy this amazing issue of the *ITS Magazine*. If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to let me know.

Read, research, and write...



Jeffrey Miller  
Editor-in-Chief

ITS



**We want to hear from you!**

Do you like what you're reading?

Let us know—send an e-mail to the Editor-in-Chief.

Letters may be published in future issues and edited for style.