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## EDITORIAL

*JIFS* has successfully completed a second year of publication thanks to our audience and participants. We are pleased with the progress our young journal has made, and we are even more pleased at its prospective success. Personal and institutional subscriptions have increased steadily as we continue to receive quality works from a broad range of authors and substantial, timely reviews from reviewers.

Since our journal began in 1992, we have received numerous paper submissions each month and have accepted 54% of these submissions for publication. The senior authors of these accepted manuscripts write from diverse geographical locations. This year, 13 senior authors contributed from the United States, 4 from Korea, 2 from Spain, 2 from Canada, 2 from Japan, and 1 author each from Egypt, Iran, Italy, and Saudi Arabia.

The topics of these papers differed similarly with their authors' geographical variety. Of the 29 papers in our second volume, 8 dealt with topics in control theory, 6 papers discussed applications with neural networks, 5 dealt with decision-making, 4 papers explored learning methods, 3 papers described clustering and identification applications, 2 papers dealt with signal processing, and 1 paper documents a mathematical theory. Applications in several disciplines, such as electrical engineering, civil engineering, manufacturing, optical engineering, and nuclear engineering are addressed in these papers. In this fourth issue of our second volume, 3 papers discuss decision-making, 2 deal with learning methods, and 2 papers are on control theory.

Entering our third year of publication, we are grateful to our Editorial Advisory Board and Associate Editors as well as our Book Review Editor, Reza Langari, and Honorary Editor, Lofti A. Zadeh, for their valuable contributions and recommendations for managing the journal. Thanks to their support and input, *JIFS* continues to remain an open forum for discussion of intelligent and fuzzy systems technology to a wide scope of disciplines in the technical community.

As we have been growing the past two years, we have made a few changes to better serve our contributors and audience. We have attained many of the goals we set for the journal during our second year and have set more goals for improvement in the foreseeable future. Among the goals we have accomplished, the dates on which we received and accepted papers now appear at the end of each published article so that readers can track the general length of our review process. We added a key words list to the index of each volume to facilitate topical searches. In addition, we have increased and stylized our reviewers database so that oversolicitation does not occur. We are pleased, as we hope our participants and readers are, that these goals have been attained.

As for the future, a special issue titled "Fuzzy Logic and Neural Networks: Theory and Applications," edited by Fei-Yue Wang of the University of Arizona and Jason Geng of Intelligent Automation, Inc., is to appear as the first issue of our third volume. Special issues like this one allow us to occasionally focus some attention on a specific topic.

The journal has undergone some changes in administration as well. In May, our cherished Editorial Manager, Nancy Gillan, left us to pursue her endeavors as a freelance writer and editor in the scenic mountains of Big Bear, California. As many of our participants know, she helped tirelessly in corresponding with authors, reviewers, and inquirers of the journal as well as with authors' editing needs. We wish her good fortune as she continues to provide service to technical and scientific writers around the world.

In return, we have gained a new Editorial Manager, Valerie Steinmaus, who will strive to carry on Nancy's precedent of efficiency and service. Since May 1994, she has aided the journal in meeting its scheduled publication dates, has achieved a time schedule for manuscript review and revision deadlines, and has helped to shape future goals for the journal. We're looking forward to achieving these goals with her.

We wish to remind our readers, authors, and reviewers that our journal is not limited merely to theory and applications of fuzzy systems; it is open to applications of any and all intelligent systems. As always, we welcome your comments for improvement so that we may continue to provide a stimulating environment for the exploration and discussion of these applications among our research and applied technology colleagues.

Once again, we would like to express our thanks to our subscribers, authors, and reviewers for their interest in and support of *JIFS*.

*December 7, 1994*

*Timothy J. Ross  
Mohammad Jamshidi  
Editors-in-Chief*

*Valerie Steinmaus  
Editorial Manager*