

Editorial

This double issue concludes Volume 19, after several months delay. The Editors wish to apologize for this delay which has occurred as a result of many independent factors. There is good news. Several forthcoming issues will be produced shortly, bringing *Space Communications* as a whole back to its intended schedule.

The papers in this volume have been selected and organized from user services to the physical layer, roughly according to the Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model, thereby giving a sample of the vital work taking place around the world in all facets of information and communications technology.

The succeeding issues are organized around topics of special interest: Propagation and Protocols.

The special issue on Earth-Space Radiowave Propagation includes recent work on ionospheric and tro-

pospheric propagation modelling and effects on both navigation and communications systems.

The special issue on Advanced Satellite Network Protocols and Performances addresses the challenges to provide the user service level guarantees required with emerging broadband services.

The year 2005 marks two important anniversaries – the sixtieth birthday of Arthur C. Clarke’s paper issuing in the era of geostationary satellites; and it is also the twentieth year of *Space Communications*. We salute and offer our congratulations to both.

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