

Editorial

The newly relaunched *Journal of Neutron Research* moves into its second issue with a group of diverse papers, a clear illustration of the breadth of neutron scattering techniques. This is a good sign and the flow of submitted papers will increase gradually. *JNR* has to establish itself within the well-elaborated abstracting services and impact factor culture. There is a tendency for funding agencies and governance bodies to pressurise researchers and their home laboratories to try to force their publications into the highest impact journals. Achieving publication in such a situation can be lengthy and indeed painful and can require sequential submissions when one journal after another sends rejection notices since the paper may fall in the fringes of any one journal's traditional scope. *JNR* has now been included in Chemical Abstracts and more disciplines will follow. Therefore the neutron techniques community would do well to submit to *JNR* in order to strengthen the journal and facilitate impact factor status in the future. Interestingly, Heinz Maier-Leibnitz, the first Director of ILL and the doctoral supervisor of Rudolf Mössbauer, was well known for his habit of publishing in the most obscure journals. Mössbauer was the second Director of the ILL and a renowned Nobel Prize winner. Maier-Leibnitz played a large part in Mössbauer's doctoral thesis work for which he won the Nobel Prize. Not for Maier-Leibnitz impact factors and personal recognition through numbers; he preferred to let his many innovations speak for themselves.

In the meantime, I have been reflecting whether as a community we are less adventurous than is desirable, perhaps prompted by the achievements of Maier-Leibnitz. The astronomy community is leading the way in terms of remote user access, in terms of remote and flexible operation of telescopes, in terms of making their data universally available after only 12 months, of using automatic instrumental adjustments such as adaptive optics to improve signal quality, of using robotics to perform routine operations and to embracing wireless technologies. Some of these innovations are the result of necessity but others are not; they quite simply make the very expensive telescopes more effective. Are we becoming too conservative? *JNR* would be willing to consider innovative moves that could for example be related to data tools. Perhaps there are other opportunities. Responses to my comments are welcome, and a selection will be published in the next issue of *JNR*.

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