

Note from the editor

Dicebat Bernardus Carnotensis nos esse quasi nanos, gigantium humeris insidentes, ut possimus plura eis et remotiora videre, non utique proprii visus acumine, aut eminentia corporis, sed quia in altum subvenimur et extollimur magnitudine gigantean.

*Bernard of Chartres
(12th century French Neo-Platonist philosopher, scholar, and administrator)*

In 1159, John of Salisbury (c. 1120 - 25 October 1180) wrote in his *Metaphysics*: "*Bernard of Chartres used to say that we are like dwarfs on the shoulders of giants, so that we can see more than they, and things at a greater distance, not by virtue of any sharpness of sight on our part, or any physical distinction, but because we are carried high and raised up by their giant size.*" The growth and success of Industrial Engineering in Southern Africa over the past 50 years, is the direct result of the commitment of the giants who have preceded those who now aspire to follow in their footsteps.

This edition of the South African Journal of Industrial Engineering introduces a number of changes to the Journal. The increasing international footprint of the Journal and its local visibility as a journal of quality and integrity, have necessitated a number of changes due to the huge increase in articles submitted to the Journal. Also, the resignation in April 2011 of the longstanding administrative assistant of SAJIE, Mrs Anne-Marie van Heerden, has led to changes in the journal administration. We salute and thank Mrs van Heerden for her dedication to SAJIE over many years.

The changes that have been made include the appointment of three section editors to assist the editor. The section editors are Prof Corné Schutte (University of Stellenbosch), Prof Chris van Schoor (University of Pretoria) and Mr Dieter Hartmann (University of the Witwatersrand). The section editors will assist the editor in appointing reviewers for the articles and taking decisions on the outcomes of the review processes. Furthermore, two editorial assistants have been appointed - both junior lecturers at the University of Pretoria: Wilna du Plessis and Estelle van Wyk. Their involvement pertains to plagiarism testing, assistance in the language editing with reference to subject specific issues and translation of the Afrikaans versions of the abstracts. The language editor of many years, Mike McCoy, remains involved.

In addition, two new features are included in this edition of the Journal. A guest editorial will henceforth be included. It will be written upon invitation by an eminent person in the field of Industrial Engineering. In this edition, Prof Roy Snaddon, recently retired from the University of the Witwatersrand and now based in Namibia to assist in the establishment of Industrial Engineering in that country, shares his experiences. We also introduce a personal section in this edition of the Journal to honour the giants of Industrial Engineering in a Southern African context.

This edition of SAJIE continues to maintain a healthy balance of local and foreign articles. It also includes two interesting feature articles - the article of Prof Sooryamoorthy follows on a previous article in SAJIE (Volume 21, number 2). The layout of SAJIE has been changed slightly to allow more articles per edition - this is necessitated by the number of articles already in the pipeline. Accordingly, two feature articles, twelve general articles and three case studies are included.

We trust that you will enjoy the latest edition!

Susan Adendorff
Editor