
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Dr. Lihui Wang is a Senior Research Officer of Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Institute at National Research Council of Canada. He received PhD and MEng from Kobe University, Japan in 1993 and 1990, respectively and BSc from China in 1982. His research interests are focused on distributed process planning, web-based real-time monitoring and control, collaborative design and intelligent manufacturing systems. He has authored about 150 book chapters, archival journal papers and peer-reviewed conference papers in these areas. In addition to his research work, he is also actively engaged in various committee and community activities. He is a member of Grant Selection Committee of Industrial Engineering at Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, a registered Professional Engineer, the Editor-in-Chief of *International Journal of Manufacturing Research (IJMR)* and an editorial board member of three other international journals.

Manufacturing contributes significantly to modern civilisation and creates momentum that drives today's economy. Much research work has been devoted to improving manufactured product quality and manufacturing process efficiency for many decades. Thanks to recent development in computer and network technologies, sensors, control systems and manufacturing machines, manufacturing research has progressed to a new level. Also, new research areas in manufacturing are emerging to address problems encountered in the evolving manufacturing environment such as the increasing business practice of globalisation and outsourcing. This dedicated research journal has been established to report state-of-the-art and new developments in modern manufacturing research.

International Journal of Manufacturing Research (IJMR) is a refereed international journal, aiming to foster discussion and provide an authoritative source of information on modern manufacturing research. IJMR focuses on publishing innovative methodologies and disseminating solutions to problems that challenge today's manufacturing operations. The objective of IJMR is to serve as a forum and provide an active channel of communication among manufacturing researchers and to practitioners for knowledge sharing and technology transfer.

IJMR publishes original research papers, literature review reports, case studies of current interest and book reviews. Special issues devoted to important topics in manufacturing research will also be published occasionally. Typical subjects in manufacturing of great interest to IJMR include:

- Process modelling and simulation
- Computing and numerical analysis
- Process design and optimisation
- Production planning and scheduling
- Sensors and control technologies
- Measurement data processing
- Robotics and automation
- Web-based technologies
- Artificial Intelligence in manufacturing
- Condition-based maintenance

Papers submitted to IJMR for consideration of publication must be original and complete. Each submitted paper will be critically evaluated by at least two experts in the relevant field to enable the Journal to publish the highest quality paper possible.

I am pleased to introduce this inaugural issue of IJMR. The six papers contained in the inaugural issue report on new research in manufacturing processes, intelligent systems and sensor and control technology. Together they lead the way for this new journal, dedicated to the manufacturing research community. Through this inaugural issue, I would like to shed some light on the recent research and development on manufacturing and hope to open doors for modern manufacturing research in the 21st century.

Acknowledgements

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