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## **Editorial**

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This *IJMIC* special issue is organised by the Editorial Office of Journal of Hebei University of Science and Technology, China. It collects together the excellent research achievements of the university staff, which represent the trends in the relevant fields of research in the university.

Hebei University of Science and Technology, situated at Shijiazhuang City, capital of Hebei province, China, is one of the key multi-discipline universities of Hebei. It covers an area of 1.74 million square metres, of which 853 thousand square metres is the building section. The university has eight disciplines of engineering, sciences, arts, economics, management, law, medicine and education, which cover almost all Hebei traditional and high-tech industries, and are well integrated with the local economy and social development. At present, the research projects mainly focus on the local needs in the area of economy and social development. A research framework that focuses on applied research first, with overall consideration of basic research, science, and social aspects as well, has been successfully established. The academic research has become a very important force to support local academic innovation and scientific progress.

The university has positively carried out an open policy as its long-term strategy and has constructed international relationships with 65 universities and institutes in 15 countries, such as the USA, UK, Canada, Germany, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Australia, and has developed cooperation in such fields as credit mutually admitted, student-exchange cultivation, teacher-exchange programmes, cooperation in scientific research and academic exchange, etc. All these collaborations have widely promoted the university image and reputation.

With the great spirit and an active attitude, the staff are making rapid progress. The university is working hard towards the building of the first class regional university. A bright future lies ahead.