
Editorial

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Biographical notes: M.R. Riazi is currently a Professor of Chemical Engineering at Kuwait University. He is the Founding Editor of *IJOGCT* and the author of over 100 publications. He has held faculty positions at various universities in the US and the Middle East and Consultant to many oil companies worldwide. Further, details are given in the preface to Issue V2 N1, 2009.

After two years of successful publication in various areas of exploration, production, refining, environmental issues related to oil, natural gas and coal, we are now publishing the second issue of the third volume of *IJOGCT*. Over the past two years, we have also received a remarkable number of papers related to biofuel production and applications. Although we have tried to keep the number of papers in each issue to six full length manuscripts, we have, on occasion, published short technical notes, although the publication of technical notes is a practice not encouraged by our editorial team.

The abstracts of papers published in *IJOGCT* are now covered by six indexing services. According to Google Scholar, the 48 articles published in Volume 1 (2008) and Volume 2 (2009) have been cited 32 times, giving a citation index of 0.67 which is considered to be a good index for a journal which is only two years old. With the help of the editorial team and our authors and by the continued citation of papers published in *IJOGCT*, it is our goal for the citation index of the journal to be further enhanced.

In this, its third year, the journal published its first special issue (Vol. 3, No. 1) entitled 'Environmental aspects of oil industry'. The issue was edited by Gabriela Sánchez-Reyna and Jorge Ancheyta of Instituto Mexicano del Petróleo (Mexico City, Mexico) and included six papers which focused on the current understanding of research fields, especially in the upstream activities of the oil industry, on the environment. Later this year, or perhaps next year, we are hoping to publish another special issue related to 'Production of technically challenged oil and gas resources'. The guest editors of these special issues are members of our editorial board but we also welcome proposals from researchers outside of the editorial team.

In this current issue, the first paper is an obituary for Professor Saul B. Suslick of Brazil who, sadly, passed away last year. He was one of the founding editors of *IJOGCT* and made a valuable contribution to the inaugural issue with his paper, 'Investment decision in oil and gas projects using real option and risk tolerance models'. From the very beginning, he was active in supporting *IJOGCT* and was always ready to review papers for the journal every time he was invited to do so. This obituary has been written by his former colleagues and students.

Gradually, over the past year, the number of editorial board members has been increasing and now includes some fine leading specialists. I am very grateful to all of them for their support and interest in our journal. I look forward to working with the team towards improving the quality of the journal and to receiving papers from their colleagues.