

Editorial

Present and Future Projections for IEJME

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We are having the pleasure to publish July-2011 issue of International Electronic Journal of Mathematics Education (IEJME). As was the case in our previous volumes (Zembar, 2011), the number of manuscripts submitted to IEJME is increasing every month. Along with the increasing quality of IEJME, one of the main reasons for such increase is, we believe, the electronic submission tool that we have introduced in recent months. The authors can now easily submit their manuscripts and follow the most recent status of their paper in real time.

The submissions that we receive show a great variety in their scopes and origins. We receive submissions from many different countries, including the ones underrepresented in mathematics education community. This suggests to us that mathematics education attracts serious research attention from all around the world.

Despite the increase in the number of submissions, the acceptance rate of the submitted manuscripts is quite low (less than 10% for 2010 and 2011). There are several reasons for the rejection of manuscripts. The main ones that we realize and our reviewers point out in their reviews include any one or combination of the following aspects (see also Alacaci, 2010): lack of rationale for the research presented in the manuscripts, weak methodologies, speculative nature of discussions which are often not supported by the data, inappropriate data analysis methods and lack of originality. Having witnessed such difficulties, we aim to contribute to the mathematics education community by providing effective feedback to the authors of submitted manuscripts via our reviewing process. The editorial panel of IEJME pays considerable attention to the reviewing process of the manuscripts. We are trying to achieve a robust reviewing procedure. Our aim for the reviewing process is not only to arrive at a decision on the publication of the paper but also to help the authors improve their submissions regardless of the given decision. To ensure this, we send manuscripts to the relevant experts in the field. Unfortunately, reviewing process takes longer time than the editorial panel anticipates. As a result, in some cases authors face longer waiting times. As the editorial panel, we are doing our best to reduce the duration of reviewing process. In the near future, our goal is to complete the reviewing process within 3 months period. We think that this is achievable and will work harder to ensure this.

As a final point, we would like to note that we aim to publish special issues in the upcoming volumes. We are in contact of several prominent mathematics educators who are well known with their research on the theme of the special issues. These issues will be prepared under the co-editorial of these researchers. We will share the theme of the special issues with our readers and contributors through our website soon.

References

- Alacaci, C. (2010). Editorial: Publishing in a mathematics education research journal. *International Electronic Journal of Mathematics Education*, 5(2), 59-60.
- Zembat, I. O. (2011). Editorial: Reflections on the Continuing Efforts on Restructuring of IEJME. *International Electronic Journal of Mathematics Education*, 6(1), 3-4.