Contributions

The Editors will be pleased to receive contributions from all parts of the world on matters coming within the purposes of the IJMEE. For expanded notes on the aims and scope of the journal, and details of the requirements for the preparation of manuscripts, etc. potential contributors should contact The Editor, International Journal of Mechanical Engineering Education, College of Physical Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen AB24 3UE, UK. Email: ijmee@abdn.ac.uk

Only articles not previously published will be accepted and authors must agree not to publish elsewhere an article submitted to and accepted for the IJMEE. No payment is made for articles contributed but two free copies of the journal issue in which the article appears will be sent to each author, up to a maximum of six copies per article. A limited number of additional copies for personal use may be purchased at a special price if specifically ordered before publication.

The IJMEE aims to provide a sound medium for the discussion of the principles and practice of the teaching and training of professional and technician mechanical engineers and the scope maybe briefly summarised as follows:

a) to publish articles about new experimental methods and demonstrations which are of fundamental value to students of mechanical engineering.

b) to discuss the construction of apparatus for specific experiments and demonstrations of value in education.

c) to carry discussions concerning teaching methods and aids - e.g. the use of films and models - and to advertise the coming on new ones as these become available.

d) to review books, primarily with use by students in view, and to draw attention to particular papers which will have a value in the education of all engineers.

e) to discuss the practice of and requirements for the academic and industrial training of mechanical engineers, and to carry articles on these topics, which are constructively controversial and which reflect the changing technical capabilities and development of various countries.

f) to discuss what subjects can, or should be, included in mechanical engineering courses, with suggestions as to methods of approach, giving sources for material for use in the preparation of teaching schemes, and to report successful initiatives.

g) to report and discuss schemes of academic and industrial collaboration.

For the benefit of potential contributors the foregoing brief statement of the aims and scope is expanded below together with notes of guidance in respect of contributions. The IJMEE’s
contribution to mechanical engineering education covers the following features, the list of which is not intended to be exhaustive.

(a) Articles which discuss the object, content and organization of part-time sandwich, undergraduate and graduate courses in technical colleges, polytechnics, and universities in various parts of the world. Such articles should not be mere factual accounts, but should attempt to justify and assess the value of such courses so that others are able to benefit from the experience reported. The pace of development in mechanical engineering education, in common with other aspects of technical and scientific education are very rapid. Not all of the interesting experiments and advances arise directly as the result of university and college activities. Where there has been industrial or governmental initiative it is hoped that details will be offered for publication. In addition to purely technical aspects of mechanical engineering education, the Editors wish to encourage material relating to new features in industrial/academic relationships, seminars, training schemes and graduate apprentice courses.

(b) Accounts of industrial training schemes and industrial/academic collaboration in the training area including the provision of case studies, design exercises, etc; also articles on the differing practices in various countries and on any changes taking place to reflect new thinking in pace with a country's development.

(c) Articles which describe methods for presentation of new topics in mechanical engineering for fresh aspects of the teaching of traditional subject matter. The level of these articles will vary considerably. Some will cater for the needs of the Training Boards and the Technical Colleges, others for the Polytechnics and the Universities. Whilst English is preferred, articles in other languages may be accepted and then a brief abstract in English will be required of authors.

(d) Accounts of laboratory experiments. These should describe new techniques for dealing with traditional subjects or, alternatively, should illustrate new or expanding branches of mechanical engineering. The accounts should be presented in the form of a complete, though concise, description sufficient to enable the experiment to be set up in any teaching laboratory and be accompanied by a set of results. Should the number of diagrams make it impossible to publish in full a complete report is kept on file and may be borrowed.

(e) Articles which describe research, provided that the topic has direct relevance to education in mechanical engineering. There are many examples where successful research projects have led to new laboratory teaching experiments. This is particularly the case where special apparatus and laboratories have been established in universities and other research institutes.

(f) Reports of educational conferences. The Editors would appreciate offers of brief reports on the proceedings of major educational conferences wherever they are taking place throughout the world.

(g) Letters to the Editor. The Editors welcome correspondence connected with articles in the IJMEE. They welcome criticism of such articles and also any comments on current engineering educational matters of technical interest.

(h) Book Reviews. Comprehensive and searching book reviews are a feature. The aim is to assist materially those who are anxious to assess the desirability or otherwise of a particular volume to their facet of education. Publishing houses are invited to submit books for review. Staff members lecturing for the first time on a new topic often find a need for guidance as to the most appropriate book in a particular field. To assist them it is hoped that the publishers will find it worthwhile to submit publications on various selected topics to the editors so that survey reviews may be provided in these special fields.
Preparation of manuscripts

1. All contributions should preferably be in English. The Editors reserve the right to modify style should this be necessary.
2. Manuscripts should be typed, with double spacing and ample margins, on one side of the paper only and be submitted in duplicate. Pages should be numbered consecutively.
3. The title of the article, the author’s name and the address from which the article comes should appear at the head of the article. In the case of joint authors, it must be clear to which of them correspondence and proofs are to be forwarded.
4. The essential contents of the article should be given in a brief summary or abstract at its commencement. Also please give between three and four key words.
5. Please supply good-quality laser printouts, original artwork or glossy photographs as appropriate, all in black and white. We only accept illustrations in electronic format if they are accompanied by hard copy. Please supply each illustration as a separate file, including both the original applications and .eps (Encapsulated PostScript) files for line diagrams. Screen shots and half-tones should be submitted as a .tiff (Tagged Image File Format). Please remove, or lighten as far as possible, background colour or shading. Lettering on diagrams should be simple, clear and large enough to allow for reduction of up to 50%.
6. References in the text to published literature should be given by numbers in parentheses on the line and these references should be listed together at the end of the article in the order in which they occur in the text. Double spacing must be used throughout. References should follow the style given below:
7. Nomenclature should conform to that most frequently used in the engineering field concerned and, in particular, reference should be made to BS 1991; 1960 for units and abbreviations. SI units are preferred.
8. All Greek letters and unusual symbols should be identified by name, in the margin, the first time they are used.
9. Tables should be numbered consecutively and should not repeat data available elsewhere in the article.
10. a) Captions for figures should be typed on a separate sheet and placed at the end of the manuscript.
    b) Screen Capture Figures (screen dumps): These should only be included if they contribute substantially to the paper. They should only be used if they are clear and uncluttered. It is expected that there would be no more than three screen capture figures in any contribution. Note, this journal is published in black/white, and thus any discrimination due to colouring could be lost in publication.
11. No manuscripts or illustrations accepted for publication will be returned unless a specific request for this to be done is received with the manuscript.
12. If the author has received substantial help (other than typing), acknowledgement should be made. If material (text or illustrations) already published by someone else is incorporated, the author must seek permission for its use, and must include the form of words that the copyright-holder asks for. Permission is almost always readily given. Special care is necessary with work published by learned societies, HMSO, PRO, the Ordnance Survey et al. Authors must not rely on the editor to spot possible infringements of copyright.