

EDITORIAL PREFACE

Fifty years of publishing scientific papers is an impressive record – one that we at the journal *Materials and Technology* are not unreasonably proud. I like to think that our success is down to an ability to adapt, to move with the times, but not always to follow convention. Since I took over the job of the Editor in Chief last year we have introduced some important changes, most notable an end to publishing purely technical papers. Such papers, while both interesting and useful to a small number of specialists, tend not to appeal to a wider audience of materials and technology researchers and so reduce the impact of the journal on its target audience.

In keeping with the ethos of my predecessor Matjaž Torkar, who was Editor in Chief from 2012 to 2016, I will be trying to publish exciting papers from scientists who are making a mark with new research techniques, new applications and new materials. A good example in this latest issue is the paper entitled *Molecular dynamics simulations of plastic deformation of metallic surfaces* by Nuša Pukšič and her colleagues, who are reporting on the behavior of surfaces at the atomic level. Of course, the journal will continue to publish more conventional, high-quality research on metallic materials, polymers, biomaterials and relevant technologies. However, we will not be acting a repository for stale research that lacks relevance and fails to attract the interest of researchers.

It is very likely that as we raise standards the number of rejected manuscripts will increase, and I understand it is not a pleasant experience to have your paper rejected by a journal. But authors have to understand that the journal cannot publish every article that it receives, and the fairest way to select the articles for publication is through a review process that considers factors like relevance, excellence, innovation, and wider impact. We also consider how well previous publications by the authors have been cited, and use this as a guideline for the relevance of their research.

Starting next year, the first issue of *Materials and Technology* will publish the best papers presented at the annual (this year it is the 25th Anniversary) ICM&T Conference, which in 2017 will be held in Portorož from the 16th to the 19th of October. In previous years we spread these papers throughout all 6 issues, but in order to highlight the work presented at this important materials-related event we have decided to showcase the best of the conference in a single issue.

Dr. Paul McGuiness

PREDGOVOR UREDNIKA

Petdeset let izdavanja znanstvenih člankov je zelo lepo obdobje, na kar smo pri reviji *Materiali in tehnologije* lahko upravičeno ponosni. Sam sem mnenja, da je uspeh revije ta, da je sposobna prilagajanja, da gre v korak s časom na področju, ki ga pokriva. Odkar sem lansko leto prevzel urednikovanje revije, smo predstavili nekatere pomembne spremembe, med drugim tudi ukinitvev objavljanja strokovnih člankov. Tovrstni članki so sicer zanimivi in koristni manjšemu številu strokovnjakov, ne dosežejo pa širše skupine raziskovalcev na področju materialov in tehnologij ter tako vplivajo na zmanjševanje faktorja vpliva pri ciljni skupini.

Pri ohranjanju etike mojega predhodnika na tem mestu, dr. Matjaža Torkarja, ki je bil urednik revije med 2012 in 2016, si bom prizadeval, da bodo v reviji objavljeni zanimivi članki raziskovalcev, ki s svojim delom predstavljajo nove raziskovalne tehnike, nove aplikacije in nove materiale. Dober primer takšnega je članek Nuše Pukšič in njenih sodelavcev v tej številki revije z naslovom *Molecular dynamics simulations of plastic deformation of metallic surfaces*, ki poročajo o obnašanju površin na atomskem nivoju. Seveda bo revija tudi v prihodnje stremela k objavljanju bolj konvencionalnih, visokokvalitetnih raziskav na področju kovinskih materialov, polimerov, biomaterialov in sorodnih tehnologij. Skratka, revija ne bo zbirala člankov z zastarelimi raziskavami, ki niso primerni in ne dosegajo zanimanja raziskovalcev današnjega časa.

Zelo verjetno je, da ko bomo dvignili standard, se bo število zavrnjenih rokopisov še povečalo. Razumemo tudi, da ni prijetno, ko je članek pri kakšni reviji zavrnjen. Avtorji morajo razumeti, da revija ne bo objavljala vseh prejetih člankov. Najboljši in najbolj korekten način izbire člankov za objavo je recenziranje člankov, kjer se upošteva ustreznost, odličnost in širši vpliv, ki ga ima članek na širšo publiko. Upošteevamo pa tudi, kako pogosto so bila predhodna objavljanja avtorjev citirana in to uporabimo kot smernico za pomembnost njihovih raziskav.

S pričetkom v naslednjem letu bodo v prvi številki revije *Materiali in tehnologije* objavljeni najboljše članki, predstavljeni na letni konferenci o Materialih in tehnologijah, ki bo v letu 2017 od 16. do 17. oktobra potekala v Portorožu. V prejšnjih letih smo članke objavljali od številke do številke, ker pa želimo poudariti dela predstavljena na tem pomembnem dogodku, ki bo letos že 25. po vrsti, smo se odločili predstaviti najboljše iz konference v eni številki.

Dr. Paul McGuiness