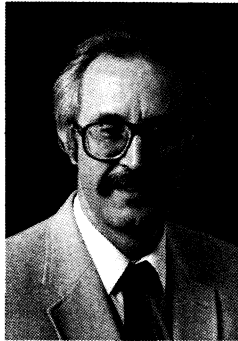# EDITORIAL

Edward R. Dougherty
Editor

Electronic imaging has entered into just about every facet of our existence. The field is growing and new areas of research, development, and application are unfolding at a rapid pace. To best serve the needs of their members, both SPIE and IS&T have committed themselves to the dissemination of the latest research in electronic imaging. This commitment is seen in both the Electronic Imaging Symposium held yearly in San Jose and the *Journal of Electronic Imaging,* as well as in major electronic imaging components at a number of other symposia.

The task of getting JEI off the ground was handed to Paul Roetling, the first editor, and given that an electronic imaging journal represented a new direction for both SPIE and IS&T, Paul essentially had to start from scratch. The journal is now in its fourth volume, and as the new editor, my task and that of the new Board of Associate Editors is different. We take over from Paul an ongoing enterprise and our goal is to make it grow.

To help foster growth, the societies have appointed a Board of Associate Editors. The board represents many technical interest areas of electronic imaging in which SPIE and IS&T are active. The board is dynamic: As the journal moves into new areas, new associate editors will be named to serve the needs of subscribers and contributors. The board has three main charges: first, to make certain that the journal is active in all major areas of electronic imaging as they emerge; second, to attract high-quality submissions across the entire spectrum of electronic imaging and from around the world; and third, to facilitate efficient and expert reviews as the journal expands. As editor-in-chief, I will depend on the associate editors to help keep the journal functioning well and to provide the diverse expertise needed to operate a journal covering such a wide scientific area.

Paul Roetling's philosophy concerning the journals scope has been to keep JEI topically expansive: The only topical requirements have been that a submitted paper be concerned with imaging and that the imaging modality be electronic. The JEI Board fully supports Paul's view and will continue to operate accordingly by welcoming quality submissions in all areas of electronic imaging.

To emphasize some key areas of electronic imaging and to bring focus to these areas, in 1996 JEI will begin publishing a number of special sections, which will be included within regularly scheduled issues and edited by guest editors. It is our intention that each of these special sections will be strongly representative of the state of the art. Planned special sections include Random Models in Imaging (Jean Serra and Dominic Jeulin), Real-Time Imaging (Alex Stoyenko, Philip Laplante, and Divyendu Sinha), Multimedia Systems (Edward Delp), and Nonlinear Image Processing (Jaakko Astola). Others are being considered. The first special section will be devoted to Digital Document Imaging and will be coedited by Professor Robert Haralick of the University of Washington and Dr. Robert Loce of the Xerox Corporation. It will appear in the January 1996 issue. More information on the special sections appears on the opposite page.

Each year, the Electronic Imaging Symposium in San Jose attracts many excellent papers spanning the subject. It has been Paul Roetling's policy to encourage submission of some of the best papers to JEI. To enhance this effort, this year the JEI Board will meet with the conference chairs during the symposium. I shall further support this effort by meeting with chairs at the SPIE symposia in Orlando and San Diego, and with the session chairs at the IS&T annual meeting in Washington, D.C. All of us—SPIE, IS&T, and the JEI Board—are committed to JEI being a major vehicle for the publication of research in electronic imaging. We can accomplish this end only if you, the journal readers, submit your best work to the journal and encourage your colleagues to do likewise.

I assume the editorship of JEI with the assumption that the journal will achieve or exceed the expectations of those who conceived it. Naturally, this takes time. But, with the help of friends and colleagues, I am confident that the next three years can take us a long way toward our goal.

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Digital Document Imaging

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This special section will cover image processing topics that are relevant to creation, acquisition, storage, transmission, recognition, analysis, and rendering of digital documents. Specific topics of interest are OCR, compression, document structure analysis, digital magnification, resolution conversion, enhancement, restoration, halftoning, and color management.

Manuscripts due May 1, 1995.

Future Special Sections

Random Models in Imaging

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Nonlinear Image Processing

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