## **EDITOR'S NOTE**



ear readers of the JAES, Greetings from Bozena Kostek, the previous Editor-in-Chief of the JAES, whom I recently met during an acoustic signal processing course where we both taught. Bozena seemed pleased with all the positive developments in the journal in the past few years. She continuously thinks about our journal and considers new ways to make it flourish even more. Bozena has also helped me in the past three years by quickly answering my unin-

formed questions as I have learned how the journal operates.

Bozena and I still share one worry: journal papers in audio research do not always contain a literature review describing the state of the art. This usually refers to citing the most recent advances in the field of the work in the past two years. The world around us and especially technology, is progressing faster than ever, machine learning techniques being a prime example, so it is hard to believe that audio research would somehow experience a slower pace. The *JAES*, us researchers, and the whole field of audio suffer from lack of references to recent works. Bozena and I hope that all authors of *JAES* papers will also cite the latest relevant papers in the future.

In 2023, the *JAES* has continued as a successful hybrid journal in which more than half of the papers are published as Open Access (OA). The OA papers are freely available for all Internet users to read, not only to AES members and E-Library subscribers. This, of course, increases the number of potential readers of *JAES* articles many times over. The percentage of OA papers in *JAES* has remained approximately the same from last year.

This year has been a record in the sense that we released four special issues, which is more than before. The April issue was the special issue on Spatial Audio, with Guest Editors Lamberto Tronchin, Janina Fels, and Thushara Abhayapala. The special issue on Audio for

Virtual and Augmented Reality was a very popular one and was divided into two volumes, which were published in the May and June issues. The Guest Editors were Stefania Serafin, David Lou Alon, Hannes Gamper, and Prasanga Samarasinghe. In September, the special issue on New Trends in Audio Effects, volume 2, was published with the help of Guest Editors Stefania Cecchi, Gianpaolo Evangelista, François Germain, and Katsunobu Kondo. This special issue continued our collaboration with the organizers of the International Conference on Digital Audio Effects (DAFx). Finally, the November issue contained the special issue on Fostering Creativity Through Web Audio, with Guest Editors Michel Buffa, Chrisoula Alexandraki, Jerome Lebrun, and Charlie Roberts. I would like to thank all 15 Guest Editors for their remarkable and demanding work for the *JAES*.

Our recent special issues and the calls for future special issues are listed on our Special Issues web page: https://www.aes.org/journal/special/.

We are again listing in this issue all experts who have reviewed manuscripts submitted to the *JAES*. I am truly grateful to all 250 of them, because without them the journal literally could not exist in its present form. *JAES* used about 30% more reviewers than last year, which I see as a healthy development. Additionally, you may notice that the diversity of our reviewer pool is improving as there are more female names on the list now than earlier. I hope this trend will continue in the coming years.

I am grateful to the managing editor Paige Horvath and production managers Kelsey John Klein and Christopher Cifani at J&J Editorial for fruitful collaboration during the past year. Also, it was great to meet many AES friends at the AES Convention in Espoo, Finland, in May 2023, including the AES Executive Director Monica Evans-Lombe, AES President Bruce Olson, President-Elect Leslie Gaston-Bird, Publication Policy Committee chair Josh Reiss, Interim Executive Director Bill Foster, and several others, who are all supportive for the journal in their roles, for which I am thankful. Finally, I would like to thank all those who read the *JAES* and submit manuscripts to us.

Happy New Year to all who are reading this.

Vesa Välimäki Editor-in-Chief Journal of the Audio Engineering Society

## **2023 REVIEWERS**

The Editor-in-Chief and the Associate Technical Editors of the JAES want to thank all those who read manuscripts and submitted their reviews in 2023.

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Kazuhiro Kondo

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