## EDITORIAL Introduction to AIEDAM

## WILLIAM P. BIRMINGHAM

It is an exciting time to assume the editorship of *AIEDAM*. Clive Dym has done a remarkable job taking the journal from a "good idea" to the leading journal in our discipline. The vision that Clive had in creating an archival journal of the highest quality is now a reality, and this reality has provided a great service to the community. We are all indebted to Clive for his vision and hard work.

The sophistication of the papers in the journal has increased tremendously over the past ten years, properly reflecting the increased sophistication of the research community. Indeed, the AI-in-Design community is one of most vigorous AI research communities: we have made significant research contributions in the use of AI techniques to design, analysis, and manufacturing problems, we have furthered "basic" AI techniques, and we have been among the most inventive in integrating methods from a variety of other fields (e.g., optimization) into our systems. We continue to draw into our community new researchers with innovative ideas. All in all, the AI-in-Design community is thriving.

I am very pleased and honored to take over the editorship of *AIEDAM*. My hope is to continue the tradition started by Clive, and to continue to increase the reputation and impact of *AIEDAM*. There are many new and exciting research areas that I hope to see in the journal. I will be exploring new ways of making the journal more useful in both an archival fashion and as a resource to be used daily by our research community.

The success of the journal depends most on the research community. I look forward to working with all of you over the coming years to continue to produce a journal of excellence.

William P. Birmingham Associate Professor Artificial Intelligence Laboratory Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science The University of Michigan 128 ATL Building 1101 Beal Avenue Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2110