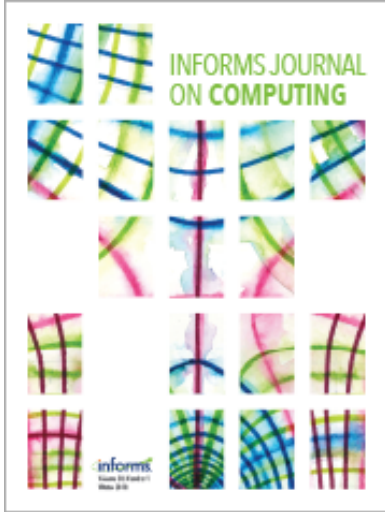




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From the Editor

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From the Editor

Prakash Mirchandani

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I am greatly honored to be named Editor-in-Chief of *INFORMS Journal on Computing* (JOC) and thank the selection committee chair, Professor Robert Fourer, and the rest of the members for choosing me. I also thank the INFORMS Board, particularly Professor Terry P. Harrison, the Vice President of Publications, for this opportunity.

Though still a relatively young journal, JOC has established itself as the premier journal in the fields of operations research and computing. It is successful in several dimensions: ISI impact factor ratings, growth in the number of submissions, healthy profitability, and increasingly stringent acceptance criteria. I am grateful to the founding editor, Professor Harvey Greenberg, his successor, Professor Bruce Golden; and the previous editor, Professor W. David Kelton, for their innovative vision, vibrant energy, and unwavering dedication that has made this success possible. They continue to be a distinguished and inspiring presence in the JOC family.

Given this past success, I believe there should be “constancy in change”—measured and significant improvement while maintaining the journal’s current focus. In this context, I am very pleased to announce that Professor W. David Kelton has joined the Advisory Board of JOC. I am grateful to him for agreeing to do so and look forward to his valuable input and advice as we continue to strengthen the Journal. My sincere thanks to him on behalf of all of us for his seven years of invaluable contributions to the Journal as Editor-in-Chief. I also thank him for his thoughtful, frank, and useful advice during the transition period.

I am also happy to welcome Karen Aardal as the new Area Editor for the Design and Analysis of Algorithms area, Marvin Nakayama as the new Area Editor for the Simulation area, and S. Raghavan as the new Area Editor for the Telecommunications & Electronic Commerce area. All three of them have been with the Journal as Associate Editors for several years and come with vast experience. I wish them all the best as they begin their new role. At the same time, I also thank Bill Cook and Susan Sanchez for the many years of dedicated service they have provided as Area Editors. I wish them all the best and much success in the new challenges they have taken up.

There is a slight change in the associate editors as well. Paulo Goes and Renato D. C. Monteiro have rotated off; our thanks to them for their service to JOC. I welcome Andrea Lodi of the University of Bologna, who joins the JOC Editorial Board as an Associate Editor, primarily

in the Design and Analysis of Algorithms area. Among other personnel-related changes, Kelly M. Kophazi is the new managing editor for the journal. She has been the managing editor of *Interfaces* for the past several years and will be taking over the same position for *INFORMS Journal on Computing* and for *Decision Analysis*. Her email address is kmkophazi@earthlink.net. I hope you will join me in extending a warm welcome to her.

John Chinneck will be editing a special issue of JOC on High-Throughput Optimization. He got this idea after seeing the success of a session that he organized on the same topic during the 2006 INFORMS Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh. The deadline for submitting manuscripts is August 31, 2007, and the Call for Papers is available on the journal’s website. John has guest edited two JOC issues in the past, and I thank him for taking this up once again on behalf of the journal.

One of the things that will be happening over the next few months is that JOC shall be moving to Manuscript Central (MC). Most of the other INFORMS journals already use MC, and the ones that don’t will be making the transition soon. MC is certainly not ideal, and some, I am sure have complaints about it, especially the mechanistic feel and the loss of the human touch associated with it. Yet, MC does provide some safeguards, creates greater transparency, and makes some of the bookkeeping and report generation easier.

All INFORMS journals, including the *INFORMS Journal on Computing*, are now available to institutional subscribers through the new host server at Highwire Press (<http://highwire.stanford.edu/>). So the look and feel of the interface will be different if you access an INFORMS journal through your library. Also, if you like, you can go to the Highwire website (linked above) to register for “table of contents” and other alerts from journals in which you are interested at Highwire.

The JOC website is being redone to acquire a look that will be similar to that of the other INFORMS journals. This is a part of the larger INFORMS effort to bring all its journals under a common umbrella, the INFORMS brand, to generate greater overall recognition and impact.

I am excited as the editorial team embarks upon another journey with you—the Journal’s readers and contributors—to engage in mutual enrichment and carry on JOC’s tradition of excellence.

Sincerely,
Prakash