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### Note from the Editor

Alice E. Smith

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## Note from the Editor

Alice E. Smith<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama 36849

Contact: [smithae@auburn.edu](mailto:smithae@auburn.edu),  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8808-0663> (AES)

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In January, the INFORMS Computing Society (ICS) biannual conference was held in Tampa, Florida. This in-person conference was vibrant and full of stimulating technical research. The University of South Florida, the hosting institution, did a great job of pulling off a fun and valuable conference during the trying times of the omicron pandemic. ICS is the sponsoring society of the journal, and we are grateful for its support. To connect the conference and the journal more explicitly, and to the betterment of both, later this year we will publish four “Challenge Papers” from the plenary speakers of the conference. These leaders in our field will put forth some key issues and offer guidance but also identify open avenues of inquiry to the research community. The authors and their forthcoming challenge papers are presented as follows:

**Illya Hicks and Boris Brimkov:** Computational and Theoretical Challenges for Computing the Minimum Rank of a Graph

**Andrea Lodi:** Cutting Planes from the Branch-and-Bound Tree

**Ojas Parekh:** Quantum Information Science Needs Operations Research (and Vice Versa)

**Katya Scheinberg:** Finite Difference Methods: To Randomize or Not?  
Some exciting stuff!

One more piece of newness for the journal is our first special issue. See the Call for Papers (<https://doi.org/10.1287/ijoc.2021.1153>)—the topic is Scalable Reinforcement Learning Algorithms and is a collaboration between three of our journal areas: Stochastic Models and Reinforcement Learning; Software Tools; and Applications in Biology, Medicine, & Healthcare.

All my best,

