

From the Editor-in-Chief

This issue of the journal *Thermal Science* contains a special collection of articles devoted to *Goodman heat-balance integral method*, done by Guest editor Prof. Dr. Jordan Hristov.

This is the third time that Professor Jordan Hristov makes special contribution to the quality of the journal *Thermal Science*, by proposing and realization of the brilliant ideas to summarize world' accumulated experience in specific, very important scientific topics. The first time it was in vol. 10, No. 1, 2006, dedicated to the scientific contribution of Prof. Adrian Bejan, and his influence on many researchers to optimize engineering systems using basic principles of thermodynamics, in particular entropy generation minimization. The second time it was vol. 11, No. 2, 2007, dedicated to the fundamental aspects of the complex processes during fires. Success of those two issues has been evident on our site.

Accordingly, I have accepted with enthusiasm the new brilliant idea of Prof. Hristov to prepare a special issue of our journal dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the *Goodman heat-balance integral method*. The result of his hard work and the contributions of the eleven recognized authors you can see in Part I of this issue.

In the course of preparing the special issue dedicated to the Goodman's 50th anniversary, National and Regional Editorial Boards were faced with the sharp increase of the number of papers submitted for publication in our journal, and increase of number of papers waiting for publication. To solve this problem I have decided to add in Part two of this issue, six papers not belonging to the main topic – Goodman's method. According to this choice main topics of those papers were several fundamental problems of heat and mass transfer. I believe that by this choice, the main idea and importance of this special issue devoted to *Goodman heat-balance integral method* is not spoiled.

Starting from this issue, we are introducing a new column in our journal, *OPEN FORUM*, a possibility for open discussion concerning unsolved or intriguing fundamental questions about physical background of the engineering problems we are facing everyday in research and engineering practice. The nice motive to introduce open forum discussions was, fascinating, intriguing, and controversial contribution of our teenager, beginner scientist Marko Popovic, finishing First Belgrade Gymnasium this year, and his essay to formulate and solve *twin paradox* from the point of view of thermodynamics, special theory of relativity, and biology. We are sure that his contribution will induce many scientists to take a part in discussions in our *OPEN FORUM*.

Short contributions in *OPEN FORUM* will be published immediately. We invite all interesting readers to raise questions of the fundamental significance for discussions in our *OPEN FORUM*.

I am sure that a nice selection of papers done by Prof. Jordan Hristov is both an excellent review of *Goodman heat-balance integral method* possibility to be used even 50th years after seminal Goodman article, and stimulus to many researchers to use it in future investigations, and to search with more patient in rich scientific heritage, hiding many forgotten ideas.

I am deeply grateful to the Guest editor, Professor Jordan Hristov, for his nice paper selection and great job in preparing this issue, and even more for his permanent care about quality of the journal *Thermal Science* from its very beginning.

May 2009

Prof. Dr. Simeon Oka
Editor-in-chief