

A Letter to our Readers and Contributors Regarding this Special Issue on Thermodynamics Dedicated to ECOS'10

This special issue and the one which preceded it have been dedicated to a number of high quality papers first presented at the 23rd *International Conference on the Efficiency, Cost, Optimization, Simulation and Environmental Impact of Energy Systems (ECOS)* held in Lausanne, Switzerland in June of 2010 and organized by the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. These papers came highly recommended to the editors of *IJoT* from the conference chairs of *ECOS'10*, Prof. Daniel Favrat and Dr. François Maréchal. These chairs in turn were asked to work closely with us as guest editors to help organize our special issues, a process facilitated by our on-line journal system. I would like to express my thanks to them for their efforts. Although all the papers came highly recommended, they nonetheless underwent our rigorous peer review process in order to assure that the quality of the papers published for these two special issues is indeed up to the standards that we have continuously maintained for our journal over the years.

As to the subjects covered, they include a number of different areas of thermodynamics from the analytical to the experimental. Of the seven papers appearing in the March special issue, a number of diverse topics are involved from the exergy analysis of hydrogen production to the application of such an analysis to the ecological effects of thermal processes to determining the exergy of water flows to the modeling and experimental validation of the limiting mass velocity of refrigerant flows to analyzing biogas reforming on Ni/YSZ and Ni/SDC catalysts to the experimental investigation of enhanced biomass reforming. The editorial staff and I hope that you find these papers as interesting as we have.

Michael R. von Spakovsky