

COMMENTS



The editorial staff of *Fusion Technology* (*FT*) is extremely pleased with this special issue on stellarators. This topic is especially timely in the sense of the “rebirth” of interest in stellarators worldwide. One reason for this renewed interest is the recognition that the stellarator can provide an effective “test bed” for plasma physics experiments with general applicability to toroidal systems. Another reason involves the recognition of various potential advantages of a stellarator reactor, such as avoidance of violent current-driven plasma disruptions.

Much credit is due to Dr. Jim Lyon of Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), who originally suggested such an issue and then, as guest editor, undertook the hard task of organizing papers and supervising the review process. These papers were arranged as part of the Seventh International Workshop on Stellarators held at ORNL, April 10–14, 1989. The papers in this issue should not be viewed as a normal workshop proceedings, however. The authors were asked to provide extended coverage of selected topics covered in the workshop for the *FT* papers.

Our plan, as originally suggested by Dr. Lyon, was to organize the special issue around the following topics: present and near-term devices, next-generation (large) devices, selected applied theory and new ideas, and reactors. The reader will find that this objective was, in fact, achieved. The task of providing these extended papers placed considerable extra stress on the authors in addition to their normal participation in the workshop. Consequently, the *FT* staff wishes to extend a special thanks to them for this added effort. Also, various attendees at the workshop and ORNL staff were heavily used as reviewers in order to expedite the review process. Their assistance was instrumental to the achievement of the high quality that is evident in this special issue, and our deep thanks goes to them.

Throughout this process, Jim Lyon spent many late night hours working on the issue. We hope and trust that after some rest he will view the project as we do, namely, a real contribution to the fusion community.

George Miley