

COMMENTS



I am pleased to write this note as we publish the December 1991 issue of *Fusion Technology (FT)*. *Fusion Technology* has existed for more than 7 years as an independent journal of the American Nuclear Society. For 3 years prior to that, it was published as a supplement to *Nuclear Technology*. Thus, we view this issue as the close of our first decade of experience in fusion publications. As with the field itself, *FT* has had its ups and downs over this period, particularly relative to finances. The combination of tight budgets in fusion and shrinking finances for libraries throughout the world, a noticeable cutback in library subscriptions has occurred for most specialized technical journals such as *FT*. Libraries typically subscribe to journals based on recommendations of persons on the "home" staff of the university or company involved. Thus, I would request that individual subscribers and readers of *FT* stop by their libraries and make sure that the *FT* subscriptions are intact. It is extremely important for the future of the journal that we maintain its presence as a basic archival medium that is readily available in libraries throughout the world. Your help in this respect is greatly appreciated.

This issue of *FT* contains a wide variety of important papers. Thus, we end the year much as we began, namely, in a strong position relative to the receipt of high-quality manuscripts. Sophisticated techniques for fueling and for current drive in tokamak-type plasmas are described here, along with discussions of technology related to liquid-metal blankets and chemical processing of fuel.

At the same time, the active series of technical notes on the cold fusion phenomenon continues. Along that line, the reader may wish to take special note of the comprehensive review, "Review of Experimental Observations About the Cold Fusion Effect," by Dr. E. Storms of Los Alamos National Laboratory. This is one of the most comprehensive reviews of the subject available to date and supplies much data to help those interested in understanding the present status of this field. There is also an extensive summary of an international workshop held at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, entitled "Anomalous Nuclear Effects in Deuterium/Solid Systems." That meeting rivaled, in size and intensity, the Annual Conferences on Cold Fusion, first held in Salt Lake City and most recently in July 1991 in Como, Italy.

This issue also contains contributions to two important departments: Book Reviews and Letters to the Editor. I would like to remind readers that suggestions for books to review are always welcome. We attempt to be quite selective so that the books reviewed are directly relevant to the main subject matter covered by fusion technology. However, sometimes new books come out that are of interest to *FT* readers but are overlooked. So your help is solicited in this respect. Also, as I have done on several previous occasions, I want to especially encourage readers to take advantage of the opportunity to submit a letter to the editor. This is an important feature of the journal that provides the opportunity for discussion and differing points of view on topics published in *FT*. This vehicle has not been used as frequently as I would like. I trust that you will agree that this is an important part of the journal, and I hope you will consider the possibility of participating in a dialogue where it seems appropriate through the use of the Letters to the Editor section.

Finally, I would like to call to the reader's attention that the first issue of the companion publication *Transactions of Fusion Technology* has just come out. It contains the papers from the 1991 International Conference on Emerging Nuclear Energy Systems (ICENES). The objective of *Transactions of FT* is to provide a vehicle where meeting proceedings can be published based on paper selection by a program committee rather than by peer review as done in the main journal. For this reason, these two publications, *FT* and *Transactions of FT*, have different names and serve different purposes. We hope *Transactions of FT* will supplement *FT* by providing improved meeting coverage. In addition, as has been done by the long-standing *Transactions of the American Nuclear Society*, persons writing meeting summary papers for *Transactions of FT* can later submit a more comprehensive updated article to the main journal. Some additional remarks about the format for *Transactions of FT* are contained in the Editor's comments to the 1991 ICENES issue. Those who are interested may wish to refer to that issue for more details. If you are involved in a future conference or workshop where this format appears to be an appropriate outlet for the proceedings, please do not hesitate to contact me or other *FT* staff.

We, the staff of *FT*, look forward to continuing to serve the fusion community in 1992. We trust you will all have a happy holiday season, and we wish you the best for 1992.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Miley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the main text block.