Editorial

Dear Reader,

This October will be my first visit back to the university campus since the start of the Covid pandemic. For an academic, there can be few greater privileges such as meeting new and returning students, then working together to learn new things and further extend individual and collective knowledge.

When I was a student, we joked that some of our lecturers were only a week ahead of us in the syllabus. Some of those brave lecturers had 'transferred in' to computing from other subjects. They worked their hardest to get informed so that they, in turn, might inform. They have my eternal gratitude for their valiant efforts. As I read the papers in this and other journals, I find it impossible to keep pace with every aspect of our chosen subject as its pace of change seems to accelerate exponentially year on year.

Given the rate of change, I thus find it necessary to adjust my approach to engaging with students. I no longer have the capacity to understand and retain all that our diverse subject area has metamorphosised into. Thus, as I return to campus, my approach, which hopefully will benefit my students as much as me, is to become a co-learner with those I teach, seeking to mentor them in acquiring knowledge and helping to create it.

Some of my new students fail to appreciate that I jest not when I say that I first began to regularly use a computer with a screen in my second year of a computer science degree (for my first year, we used paper tape and punch cards). If only they realised that I lack the sense of humour to joke about such things and that the subject they now pursue has changed beyond belief in forty years.

As technologies in computing continue to emerge and develop, it is exciting to be part of such an impactful and ubiquitous endeavour. I hope that as your read the papers in this edition, you, like me, will be inspired by something new and motivated to keep on learning.

With best wishes,

Professor Andrew Ware,
On behalf of the Editorial Board,
Annals of Emerging Technologies in Computing (AETiC).