

FOREWORD

This is the first issue in the third volume of JESTEC. In many aspects this issue is a special one. It is a special issue on the “21st Symposium of Malaysian Chemical Engineers” which was organised by the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) from 12th to 14th December 2007 as it contains selected papers from that Symposium. It is also a special in the sense that it is the first themed issue of JESTEC dedicated entirely the theme of the conference which is "Challenges and Opportunities in Chemical Engineering for Sustainable Future", addressing sustainability and the role of engineers in handling the grand challenges that face the human race, especially in areas like energy and environment. Furthermore, this issue represents an important milestone for JESTEC as it marks a very successful collaboration effort with academics from a leading Malaysian institution, the UPM.

It is hoped that, in the future, we can bring our readers more themed issues of JESTEC to sustain it as a relevant and interesting platform for dissemination and sharing of information.

The Editorial Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the organising committee of the “21st Symposium of Malaysian Chemical Engineers”, the authors and the reviewers for their support. As always, we welcome and highly appreciate any feedback or suggestion to improve JESTEC.

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