

# Note from the editor

***People now realize that globalization is not only for the multi-nationals and the circulation of money.***

**Lakhdar Brahimi  
(1934 - )  
UN peace envoy & advisor**

As reported in the November 2012 edition of the *South African Journal of Industrial Engineering (SAJIE)*, the open access on-line presence of *SAJIE* became a reality during that month. In its previous guise, *SAJIE* would be mailed to the members of the *Southern African Institute for Industrial Engineering* (typically between 600 and 700 members) of which only a few were based outside of South Africa.

On the day that the new on-line presence realised, a Google Analytics account was set up to monitor the traffic to the *SAJIE* website. By the end of April 2013, the website had received more than 9 500 visits from almost 5 900 unique visitors representing 125 countries of the world. The on-line presence of *SAJIE* has catapulted the Journal into the global arena.

As part of the rejuvenation of *SAJIE* a new editorial board has been constituted - it reflects the growing international footprint of the Journal as well as certain strategic alliances forged by *SAJIE* with other publications and associations.

The visibility of the Journal has produced a stream of articles - at the time of going to press, more than 60 articles were in various stages of the review process. The challenge of finding suitable and willing reviewers to execute the double blind peer review process has become a major challenge.

Readers of *SAJIE* are encouraged to visit the new website at <http://sajie.journals.ac.za> to register as readers, authors or reviewers. At present, there are 318 users registered on the website. A registered user receives notifications from the website when new issues are published and will from time to time be alerted to announcements (for example conference opportunities). However, the announcements are limited to only a few.

In the May 2013 edition of *SAJIE* ten of the 14 articles have some South African connection - either through authorship or affiliation. Seven South African higher education institutions are represented. It should be noted that *SAJIE* will continue its emphasis on South African articles as in the past. However, if the aim is to raise the impact factor of the Journal, the acceptance of international articles is a *sine qua non*.

*Susan Adendorff*

Editor

# Obituary

## *Prof JP Botha (15 April 1928 - 27 March 2013)*

Prof Johan Botha, who spent the greater part of his adult life as an academic in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Pretoria, recently passed away.

His undergraduate and postgraduate training consisted of a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering completed at Stellenbosch University, an MBA from the University of Pretoria and a DSc (MechEng) completed at Cambridge University. His greatest contributions in the Faculty of Engineering were the teaching of Thermodynamics and the establishment of Industrial Engineering in 1963 as a new independent engineering discipline to be taught at university level. Prof Botha was head of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Pretoria from 1974 until his retirement in 1989.

An eclectic random assembly of phrases may serve to simultaneously define and celebrate his personality:

- A particular interest in the studies of Sidi Carnot in the field of Thermodynamics.
- An emphasis on correctness.
- Strictness and fairness in educating students.
- A penchant for agrarian matters.
- Incredible manual creative dexterity.
- An epicurean approach to life.
- The inability to suffer fools gladly.
- An interest in an extreme range of hobbies.
- An overwhelming passion for the optimization of productivity of human endeavour.
- A sophisticated sense of humour.

Students, academic peers and others who had the fortune to know him, passionately mourn his passing.

