

Increasing quality further

The beginning of the year 2017 has brought about several important changes for *Contributions to Plasma Physics (CPP)*. The most important one is the retirement of Prof. Thomas Klinger (IPP Greifswald) from the editorial board. Our journal and the other editors owe him special thanks. Thomas served on the editorial board since 2004. During this time, together with Karl-Heinz Spatschek, he managed to maintain high quality standards. He also supported the concentration of the journal on key topics in plasma physics where *CPP* remains to be among the best addresses: *non-ideal and strongly correlated plasmas, gas discharges, low-temperature plasmas, dusty plasmas, plasma diagnostics, plasma medicine and plasma technology*. Thomas continued to develop the good ties into the fusion and plasma wall interaction communities and attracted excellent authors and conference proceedings. Even though Thomas Klinger has left our editorial board he will remain close to *CPP*—the journal has offered him to join the Honorary Advisory Board.

The editors would also like to thank Ms. Marlies Dewitz for her dedication in serving our journal. She has been responsible for the typesetting and the preparation of the published issues since December 2003, and ensured a consistent layout of the papers according to the design guidelines of our journal.

We are glad to announce that, as of January 1st, 2017, Prof. Bernhard Unterberg from Forschungszentrum Jülich has agreed to join our editorial board. He is now in charge of fusion-related articles, with a focus on plasma–wall interaction and plasma diagnostics. Thus *CPP* continues to work with a strong board of editors and associated editors. This editorial work has been very successful, leading to an increased quality of published articles. This positive trend is also visible in an increase of our impact factor to 1.255 in 2015; a further increase is expected for 2016 which positions *CPP* in the upper half of plasma physics journals. We will continue to increase our quality requirements for articles—authors must convincingly demonstrate that their paper advances plasma physics. A substantial fraction of submissions has to be rejected without review.

A special benefit for authors is the rapid manuscript handling and the short time until online publication. Also, a list of the most highly cited papers for the most recent years is now available on the *CPP* home page. *CPP* continues its close ties to the German Plasma Physics communities. As in the previous years, *CPP* will fund prizes for the best posters at the annual DPG conference and publish invited talks which—if submitted on time—are made freely accessible. Finally, we are pleased to introduce a new layout of the online published contributions—starting with this issue. The appearance has been freshened up to allow for a modern presentation using html-features with their immense potential of data handling. The most striking feature is the direct linking to the references given in the papers. We hope that the design will make the publications more reader-friendly and welcome any suggestions or feedback you may have on improving the online presentation.

Michael Bonitz, for the editors