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Editor: Atilla Ansal (Phone: 90-216 332 5530 Fax: 90-216 462 1932 E-mail: ansal@boun.edu.tr)

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF 2002-2006

The date of the computer file of the first manuscript submitted to Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering was 23 August 2002. It has been four years since than and during this period including 3 Special Issues, 134 manuscripts were submitted to BEE. Out of these 134 manuscripts; 59 were published in the already printed 12 issues, 19 are inline for printing. 18 are under review, 34 were declined and 4 were withdrawn by the authors. Almost all of the manuscripts were reviewed by two referees.

We anticipated that the inflow of manuscripts would be slow in the beginning and the plan was to publish three issues per year. The inflow rapidly reached a sufficient level after the first six months to easily support this publication frequency. Interestingly the same number, 26 manuscripts were submitted in 2003 and in 2004. The number of manuscripts submitted during 2005 increased to 38 which meant 46% increase in submission compared to 2004. The acceleration in the manuscript inflow appears to continue in 2006 with 44 manuscripts received in the first 8 months. If this rate stays the same over the next 4 months the increase in the submissions could be as high as 73% compared to 2005.

The first issue of the first volume, composed of invited papers was printed in August 2003. The remaining two issues were available as paper copy in the last quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004. The first volume of BEE had 13 papers, 2 technical notes and an editorial.

The three issues of the second volume were printed in 2004 and in the first quarter of 2005. The second volume of BEE had 13 papers, one discussion and one reply. The third issue of this volume was the first issue of BEE that included a discussion and a reply.

During this period Kluwer Academic Publishers merged with Springer Verlag and this process sometimes caused delays in the production process. After this merger, the third issue of Volume 2 was the first issue printed under the new Springer imprint.

The two issues of Volume 3 were in print in February and April 2005. The third issue was printed in December 2005. Volume 3 Issue 2 was the First Special Issue of BEE containing the MalletMilne Lecture delivered by Prof. W. Liam Finn. Volume 3 had 10 papers, 1 technical note and an introduction to the Mallet-Milne lecture.

It was decided based on mutual agreement with Springer that Volume 4 will consist of 4 issues. I am also happy to inform that Springer has offered BEE for evaluation to ISI for inclusion in the Science Citation Index. The evaluation may be concluded after all issues of Volume 4(2006) are published and the outcome is most likely to be communicated in 2007.

The first, second and third issues of Volume 4 came out in February, May and August of 2006. Second issue of this volume was the Second Special Issue on "Natural Hazards' Impact on Urban Areas and Infrastructure" with the Guest Editor Maria Bostenaru Dan. The fourth issue of this volume will be the Third Special Issue on "Risk-EU Project" with Guest Editors Robin Spence and Benoît Le Brun. All the manuscripts of this issue were recently forwarded to Springer and most likely will be printed in December 2006.

All the manuscripts for the first issue of Volume 5 are ready for printing and we already agreed to publish the Eleventh Mallet-Milne Lecture to be delivered in 2007 by Robin Spence as the second issue of Volume 5. The third issue of Volume 5 is nearly completed.

During the first three years as the Editor, I handled all the correspondence with the authors and referees during the submission and review stages. All the reviews were conducted based on the manuscripts forwarded as e-mail attachments or downloading from the editors ftp site. As of May 1, 2005, manuscript submissions and the review process is being monitored by the Springer Editorial Manager (EM) online peer review system. We have received the 48 manuscripts through this system. All of the Editorial Board Members and all of the referees are registered on the system. The authors submit their manuscripts through this system by loading their manuscript to the EM. The system informs me by an e-mail. I visit the EM site, download the paper and assign the referees. The system prepares the invitation letters for the referees asking them if they would be able to review the manuscript directed to them. Once the referee gives a positive answer he or she would be able to download the manuscript to perform the review. The referee after finishing the review downloads his or her review to the EM site, and I am informed me by an e-mail that one review is completed. Up to the present EM has been functioning efficiently for BEE.

I would like to acknowledge and express my gratitude for all the support given by the Editorial Board Members as reviewers and as authors. I would also like to acknowledge the referees listed below in the alphabetical order in taking part in the review process during these four years.

A.Akinci, S.Bakır, G.Birgören Tanırcan, H.Boduroğlu, E.Booth, G.Bouckovalas, N.Bouden-Romdhane, J.Bray, G.M.Calvi, A.C.Costa, E.Carvalho, Z.Celep, K.O.Cetin, M.Constantinou, D.F.D'Ayala, J.Douglas, E.Durukal, M.Erdik, A.Erken, D.Faeh, Y.Fahjan, M.A.Garevski, M.Ghafory-Ashtiany, J-S.Hwang, S.Iai, A.J.Kappos, N.Karanci, P.Lestuzzi, D.C.Lo Presti, B.Margaris, M.Melkumyan, M.Mucciarelli, R.Musson, A.Occhiuzzi, K.Ozaydin, G.Ozcebe, O.Özel, R.Pinho, P.Pinto, F.Sabetta, E.Safak, C.Scawthorn, A.Sextos, F.Sivestri, D.Slejko, R.Spence, P.Spudich, J.Studer, H.Sucuoglu, P.Suhadolc, M.D.Trifunac, M.Wieland, E.Yüksel, A.Zerva

Atilla Ansal