BEGIN AT THE BEGINNING

By Isabel Beichl, Editor in Chief

I'M APPROACHING THE TASK OF SERVING AS EDITOR IN CHIEF FOR *CiSE* WITH PLEASURABLE ANTICIPATION, HAVING BEEN ON THE EDITORIAL BOARD FOR MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS. I'LL NOW TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND BEGIN BY EXPLAINING HOW I VIEW *CiSE* AND WHAT I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH AS EIC.

The magazine was created to serve the computational science community. From its founding, *CiSE* has focused on real-world applications of scientific computing, with articles written by and for active practitioners, and it will continue to serve this function.

Education in computational science is a core mission for *CiSE*. Our feature articles are designed to inform and instruct, and various columns appearing in every issue are explicitly tutorial. Because computation evolves so rapidly, a great deal of education in computational science occurs outside of academic institutions. This means that for practicing scientists and engineers, staying current is a never-ending process, yet providing education to others is also an unavoidable responsibility. The success of the magazine's columns—in particular, Computing Prescriptions and Your Homework Assignment—shows that *CiSE* does play an important part in the great adventure of education. I hope to see our educational mission continue and grow.

In addition to education, *CiSE* should lend a voice to some other specific topics:

- Moore's law is ending, but the demand for more computing power is not. To continue to speed up computation, parallel computational capabilities are quickly becoming commonplace. Even laptops will have multicore parallelism, but will our community be able to take advantage of the computational power available to them? A series of articles and perhaps even an ongoing column discussing ways that this has been done and the means to do so would be useful.
- Applications of computational science to biology and to problems from biology are increasing. *CiSE* should be part of bringing these results to our readers.
- The next generation of Web-based computing is devel-

oping very rapidly, mainly because of cloud computing. Obviously, our community would like to know not only about ways to use the Web for computation but also about how the Web is evolving for scientific purposes.

A final remark about *CiSE* and its future: our magazine has always been a group effort. The editorial board should be and is a group of activists, and I'm planning on even more involvement from the editorial board as a whole. I look to this magazine to continue to be a high-quality scientific publication.

And finally, I can't end without thanking Norman Chonacky for his four years of service at the helm of *CiSE*. Thanks, Norman, for your fine leadership over the past four years!

Isabel Beichl is a mathematician at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Her research interests include Monte Carlo algorithms, complex systems, and discrete mathematics. Beichl has a PhD in mathematics from Cornell University. Contact her at isabel dot beichl at nist dot gov.

A NOTE REGARDING THE COVER

Because the IEEE Computer Society is dedicated to environmental responsibility, we've changed from a UV-coated cover stock to an aqueous coating. This requires less energy, reduces worker safety issues at the printing plant, and facilitates efficient recycling. This is a modest but effective step toward minimizing our environmental impact. —*eds.*