As my second two-year term as Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of the IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG) is ending, it is my pleasure to introduce Ming C. Lin as the new EIC. TVCG is very fortunate to have such an excellent and highly visible researcher and experienced leader to guide it. Dr. Lin has been on the editorial board for the past seven years and has also served as Associate EIC of TVCG for the last four years. This past year, an international search for a new EIC was conducted. The search committee received nominations from several well-qualified candidates and eventually made their recommendations to the IEEE Computer Society (CS) Publications Board, with the official appointment being made by the President of the IEEE Computer Society.

In reflecting on the changes and expansion of TVCG over my tenure as EIC, I am pleased to say that we have succeeded in increasing the publication frequency (from bimonthly to monthly), significantly increasing the number of published papers per year, decreasing the time from submission to first review decision and publication of the preprint in the IEEE CS Digital Library. The journal has also increased the number of special sections that are based on significantly extended versions of the best papers from various conferences and symposia in our field. Obviously, this attracts high-quality research papers from different research areas within TVCG’s scope and contributes to the excellent reputation of TVCG among the attendees of these events. The partnership with the IEEE Visualization and Graphics Technical Committee (VGTC) on publishing the papers accepted for the IEEE Visualization and Information Visualization Conferences after a rigorous journal-style two-phase review cycle into a special issue of TVCG resulted in a very positive development for both the journal and the conferences under the auspices of VGTC. This success model is now also considered by other journals and conferences, and plans for including a few more high-quality conferences into TVCG are under way. Including more outstanding content into the journal is not only attractive to the readers, but is also essential for the clear upward trend of TVCG’s impact factor. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of this successful growth of TVCG. It has been an extremely rewarding experience.

The continued growth of the journal is the culmination of work by many individuals and groups. First of all, the success of the journal relies on the authors and readers of TVCG for their high-quality submissions and their continued support as subscribers. The journal cofounders and previous EICs started TVCG on a great course from its inception and have continued to provide valuable advice and guidance. The Associate Editors and reviewers over the past 16 years have succeeded in providing efficient, high-quality review and guidance in creating excellent archival papers. I am indebted to my extraordinary Associate EICs, Ming Lin and Baining Guo, as well as the great Associate Editors that I have had the opportunity to work with over the past four years. Their work is invaluable to the success of TVCG. The CS publications staff, especially Alicia Stickley, Erin Espriu, Hilda Carman, Joyce Arnold, and Kathy Santa Maria, and Andy Morton from Allen Press as the TVCG Administrator, have been great colleagues and I am extremely thankful for their support and hard work: TVCG would not exist without them and this will continue to be true in the OnlinePlus era of the journal.

I look forward to watching TVCG continue to grow under Dr. Lin’s guidance over the next four years and I wish her the very best for this strenuous but rewarding job in these exciting times of academic publishing.

Thomas Ertl
Outgoing Editor-in-Chief

For information on obtaining reprints of this article, please send e-mail to: tvcg@computer.org.
Ming C. Lin received the BS, MS, and PhD degrees in electrical engineering and computer science from the University of California, Berkeley. She is currently the John R. & Louise S. Parker Distinguished Professor of Computer Science at the University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill. She has received several honors and awards, including the US National Science Foundation (NSF) Young Faculty Career Award in 1995, the UNC Hettleman Award for Scholarly Achievements in 2002, Beverly W. Long Distinguished Term Professor 2007-2010, Carolina Women’s Center Faculty Scholar in 2008, Carolina’s WOWS Scholar 2009-2011, the IEEE VGTC VR Technical Achievement Award 2010, and eight best paper awards. Her research interests include computer graphics, visualization, robotics, and human-computer interaction, in general, with a focus on physically-based modeling, real-time interaction with virtual environments, geometric modeling, and GPU-computing. She has (co)authored more than 220 refereed publications and coedited/authored four books. She has served as a program/paper committee member for more than 100 leading conferences and cochaired more than 20 international conferences and workshops, in addition to being a member of six editorial boards of scientific journals. Some of the software systems developed by her group have been downloaded by more than 100,000 users and licensed to commercial vendors. She has also served on the Steering Committees of international conferences and advisory boards for government agencies and industry.