

## **Editorial Foreword**

April 27, 2018 (E44). The spring is typically time for the big national physics conferences and less so for applied superconductivity conferences. As a result, rather than reporting on recent conferences, this special Issue adds two invited contributions presented at the ISS 2017 (December, Tokyo, Japan); one from the Materials section involving recent progress in  $MgB_2$  wires, and one from the Large Scale section on the fabrication and properties of superconducting joints of REBCO coated conductors.

In the “Science and Technology Highlights” section, we have two contributions from materials research: one covers REBCO conductor for accelerator magnets and the other conveys record critical current densities reached in highly-textured 122 iron-based superconducting tapes.

Let me take the opportunity to call for short contributions to our highlight articles on the front page. We are currently looking for short articles (about 300 words) with one or two hi-resolution images, in color (if available). Photos of the researcher or research group are welcome.

Horst Rogalla and the SNF Editorial Team