

# THE END OF ANOTHER ERA FOR CoED

A new era starts for CoED and its Journal with an “on-line publication with Academics.com beginning with the July – September 2017 issue”. Information can be obtained from the CoED Chair, John R. Baker at John.R.Baker@uky.edu.

CoED roots began in August 1965 with the formation by EAI, Inc. (and a group of educators from California and Arizona in Los Angeles) of the EAI Analog Computer Educational Users Group (EAI-ACEUG). The purpose was to spread, in Academia, knowledge about analog computation via two periodic publications: “Newsletter” and “Applications”, soon followed by an addendum (“Applications Notes”) to the “Newsletter”. This era ended on December 27, 1965 when the organization became a separate non-profit – ACEUG – funded by EAI, Inc.

The ACEUG Era began in late 1967 with a new Constitution and By-laws for its 700 members. The Board of Directors appointed an executive Secretary in early 1968, with EAI, Inc. Vice President John A. Curtis holding the volunteer position by the end of that year for its 900 members. In 1969, the non-profit organization established an Editorial Review Board of volunteers from its membership. Its national office was furnished and staffed by EAI, Inc., which covered about 90% of the \$40,000 annual budget of ACEUG. ACEUG received about 10% of its budget from membership dues. ACEUG worked closely with ASEE during its early evolution. Effective January 1, 1971, ACEUG changed its name to ANALOG/HYBRID COMPUTER EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (ACES) to reflect growing academic interest in digital computation and later that year began “serious discussions” about merging into ASEE. EAI, Inc. had little interest in continuing to support ACES; and ASEE was unwilling to assume the \$40,000 per year subsidy. After EAI, Inc. agreed to provide a subsidy to ACES of \$15,000 annually for its publications, ACES, with its 1,000 members, merged into ASEE as the Computers in Education (CoED) Division of ASEE – effective January 1, 1973. Thus ended the era of ACES and ACEUG.

CoED thrived during 1973 and 1974. When John A. Curtis retired from EAI, Inc., the subsidy from EAI, Inc. became an annual agony for CoED until 1980 when CoED had secured funding support from industry “sponsors” including EAI, Inc., Comdyna Inc. (Ray H. Spiess), Matrix Publishers, Inc. (Merl K. Miller), Rockwell International. In 1981, CoED combined all its individual publications into a single bi-monthly cover “CoED Journal”, which had trimmed to 12-16 pages per issue. By 1982, CoED had accumulated a debt exceeding a total year of operations and had lost its financial sponsors. CoED could no longer pay its rent on the “national office” nor the salary of the single employee there. CoED officers appealed to The Northeast Consortium for Engineering Education (NCEE) and readily agreed to an austerity mode of operations set forth by NCEE to extinguish the operating deficit and erase the debt incurred. This era ended in late 1982 with the “CoED National Office” re-locating to NCEE offices in Port Royal, VA, with strict control by NCEE over CoED finances.

In 1983, the “CoED JOURNAL” began publication under the NCEE publisher regime. By 1985, CoED Awards were established with plaques, certificates and cash awards. CoEd received a new set of By-Laws in the 1986-88 time frame after approval by members, directors, and ASEE. The July – September 1991 was the final issue of the “CoED JOURNAL” with the name changed to “Computers in Education JOURNAL” for the October – December 1991 issue, consisting of 96 pages. In the past decade, the print version of the “JOURNAL” has stabilized at 112 pages but the content has become more “archive” than “teaching aid for faculty”. NCEE had become more and more resistant to subsidizing the print version and two years ago began a new print quarterly, Transactions on Techniques in STEM Education. Thus, this issue of the print Computers in Education Journal is the final issue and ends another era.