
FROM THE EDITOR

The Journal of Forensic Document Examination (JFDE), a scientific peer-reviewed journal with international Editor and Scientific Advisory Boards and subscribership publishes original scientific research in handwriting identification, motor control, pattern recognition, and the technical aspects of forensic document examination. Starting with the current volume, Volume 28, the JFDE will be published online hosted by PKP Press (Public Knowledge Project). The Editors believe that online access provides the most effective platform for publishing journal papers that can be accessed world-wide. Table of Contents and Abstracts are available as open access materials, while articles and issues are available at a nominal fee to cover the costs of formatting and hosting the Journal.

With online publication the JFDE can maintain its current standards and quality of papers while, at the same time, charge less for subscriptions. International subscribers will no longer need to pay a higher price to cover the cost of mailing hard copies outside the United States. Individual copies of papers will be more easily accessed at a reasonable rate. Papers will no longer need to be restricted in length or image number/size. While some journals charge authors for submission of papers, the JFDE will not. We believe these fees potentially reduce the credibility of the published paper.

Because this may be the first time that a reader has seen the JFDE, whose readership has been largely forensic document examiner practitioners, forensic and crime laboratories, and researchers in motor control and pattern recognition, we decided to publish 10 papers that represent the quality, originality, and/or earlier developments in the field. With few exceptions, very little was changed when the papers were reformatted for this volume.¹ One exception was the paper titled, "Light and Electron Microscopy Approaches to Sequence of Writing Problems." In 1996, the JFDE was not using color. Most of the images in the reformatted paper are now high quality ones. A few images are from the original paper and are so noted.

¹ The authors' workplaces and emails were not updated. Several authors are now retired or have changed jobs since their papers were published.

There are many more valuable papers from earlier volumes that are important for researchers and readers. Our goal is to eventually have each of them available online or include one or two papers with future issues.

Volume 28 contains papers that are divided into pattern recognition, handwriting research, technical, and methodology. Readers will recognize many of the authors who have made valuable contributions to the field including the late Bryan Found (Australia), Katrin Franke (Norway), Huub Hardy (Netherlands), Sargur Srihari (USA), and Joseph Barabe (USA-formerly with McCrone Associates).

Pattern Recognition

- *The Wanda Measurement Tool for Forensic Document Examination*
- *Questioned Document Examination using Cedar-Fox*

Handwriting Research

- *Comparison of Document Examiners' Opinions on Original and Photocopied Signatures*
- *The Frequency of the Occurrence of Handwriting Performance Features Used to Predict Whether Questioned Signatures are Simulated*
- *Temporal Features of Handwriting: Challenges for Forensic Analysis*
- *Effects of Writing Speed upon modes of Signature Simulation: A Kinematic Analysis*

Technical

- *Raman Analysis in Document Examination*
- *Light and Electron Microscopy Approaches to Sequence of Writing Problems*
- *Introduction to Gel Inks: History and Analysis*

Methodology

- *Methodological Aspects of Handwriting Identification*

The Editor would like to thank Michael Caligiuri (USA), Michael Pertsinakis (Greece) serving as the Assistant Editor, and Antonio Parzale (Italy) for their advice. The contributor most responsible for

developing the current format of the journal is Emily Will (USA) who has devoted countless hours to develop the JFDE's new website.

M. Patricia Fisher
Editor