

Editorial: Moving forward from challenges and test-driving a new approach for the Journal

Kay Stables, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

Lyndon Buck, University of Southampton, UK

Recent months have been challenging for the Journal as we have experienced some technical issues with the OJS website. However, we are now pleased to be able to say that problems have been overcome and we are back to our normal ways of communicating with readers, authors and reviewers. The challenges have resulted in us publishing the first issue of 2025 later than usual, but despite the problems, we are happy to be sharing eight very interesting research articles.

In the last issue of 2024, we made the embarrassing mistake of mentioning that the journal, in its current format, would be celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Whoops, we meant its 20th. However, we received no comments on this and assume that no-one noticed our mistake! And it is still exciting to acknowledge that this new issue does mark the milestone of 20 years since the journal shifted its focus both to becoming an international journal and one that focuses primarily on research in design and technology education. However, the journal had existed in previous formats as far back as 1968 and the vast majority of material published since that time is still held in an archive that contains fascinating history and some real gems of insights into the development of design and technology education. We plan to publish the archive in the near future, so watch this space.

This issue contains articles from across all ages and stages of design and technology education, from researchers in Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Sweden, Lapland, Mexico and USA, exploring, explaining and sharing insights across design learning, incorporating humour, holistic craft processes, creativity, teacher guides, cultural insights, participatory approaches, AI and learning, interior design, sustainability, textiles, industry and society, future challenges and bioengineering.

Rather than providing insights into each article through summaries in the editorial, in this issue we are trialling a different approach to introducing each article, by letting the authors speak for themselves. So, we are including a new section in the journal where the abstracts for each article can be seen. As far as we know this is the first time the journal has trialled this approach and we would welcome feedback to see if it is one that we should continue with. We hope that you find the current issue enjoyable and valuable and we look forward to hearing your views on this new approach.