Preface

The International Conference on Nuclear Engineering (ICONE) was launched in 1991 under the mutual collaboration of the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers (JSME) and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME); the Chinese Nuclear Society (CNS) joined the organizing committee in 2005. The ICONE is a very successful conference and held every year from the ICONE3 in 1995.

The 28th ICONE was scheduled to be held at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, USA from August 2nd (Sunday) to August 6th (Thursday), 2020. However, due to COVID-19, 28th ICONE was postponed to the next year (2021). However, there are many submitted papers, and based on the results of the questionnaire survey of prospective participants, the meeting named “ASME's Nuclear Engineering Conference powered by ICONE (called ICONE2020)” (ASME-sponsored, JSME, CNS co-sponsored) was held as a virtual conference from August 4th to May 5th. Some of the papers submitted to ICONE28 this year were remained and presented on the ICONE2020. Eventually, the number of papers exceeded 300. There were 75 presentations from Japan. Presentations were categorized into 14 tracks (fields), including student sessions as listed below. Presentation was performed by a pre-recorded video, and discussions and information exchanges were held by a chat format.

Track01 Operating Plant Experience
Track02 Nuclear Fuel and Engineering
Track03 Nuclear Plant Engineering
Track04 SMR and Advanced Reactors
Track05 Nuclear Safety, Security, and Cyber Security
Track06 Codes and Standards
Track07 Thermal Hydraulics
Track08 Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)
Track09 Verification and Validation
Track10 Decontamination & Decommissioning
Track11 Beyond Design Basis
Track12 Nuclear Policy
Track13 Probabilistic Risk Assessments
Track14 Student Paper Competition

In this special issue of MEJ, the extended and/or updated versions of 12 papers that were considered to have high archival value in the ICONE2020 were contained through strict peer-review process. The members of the editorial committee are:

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I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the editors for their tremendous efforts to publish the special issue of ICONE2020 in MEJ while the daily activities constrained due to the threat of COVID-19.
Finally, I wish research and development in various scientific fields including nuclear engineering are maintained to contribute the SDG (Sustainable Development Goal)s in the world.

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