## **Perspectives on Computational Electromagnetics**

It can be hugely productive to look at one subject as it interfaces with another. This is particularly important when one considers the benefit of knowledge from one sphere being translated to another. *Perspectives on CEM* aims to do this. Its objective is to try to strengthen the practice of CEM by looking at it from the angles other than mathematical or methodological. The technical notes in this newsletter, plus the papers in various journals and conferences are better able to do this. This section will be a success if it helps us to look at, and think about, CEM in different ways. Over the next few issues we will attempt to do this through a mix of essays and perspectives. The anticipation is that these perspectives will provoke some thought, opinion and debate. Some of the intended topics to be covered are:

- Does a knowledge/study of history help us to build better codes and better models now?
- What has philosophy got to do with CEM?
- Organisational culture: what shapes it and what are the benefits of managing it?
- Is knowledge the most valuable resource?
- Should the teaching of electromagnetics be biased towards understanding the mathematics or being able to drive the packages really well?
- What would it take for CEM to warrant the level of governmental research support as some of the more fashionable subjects, such as nanotechnology?
- How can we predict technological development?
- IPR: when is it a good idea not to bother?
- What makes a brand?
- How can project teams be made more effective?

Please feel free to make comments or observations about the intended and actual content.

I hope that this section will provide some food for thought over the next few issues

Alistair Duffy apd@dmu.ac.uk