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## Guest editorial

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Dear readers,

Friction, wear and lubrication concern mankind since the ancient times, and with the Jost Report of 1966, the term tribology found its way into modern science and industry. Even more, it became a passion of – an ever since growing – group of scientists and engineers. Since then, several national associations, research institutes, university faculties and specialized companies were established across the world, facing a variety of fundamental and applied tribological challenges.

Indeed, in industry, the holistic/interdisciplinary nature of tribology makes it almost impossible to have all related knowledge under one roof. This emphasizes the importance of tribological institutions and research groups in providing the necessary know-how. Besides this, it appears as up-to-date and a useful approach to have an appropriate “social network” of tribology specialists one can address questions to.

The Young Tribologists is a working committee of the German Association for Tribology, having members from all over Europe. Since the foundation in 2015, its goal is to attract students for the field of tribology, to support them

during their academic work and to provide a platform for exchange of knowledge. Especially, the Young Tribological Researchers Symposium offers the new generation of tribologists an opportunity to present their work.

This special issue is dedicated to the 3rd Young Tribological Researchers Symposium, which took place on 9–10 March 2019, in Wiener Neustadt, Austria. The talks covered a diversity of up-to-date research topics, such as numerical modelling approaches, laser surface texturing or advanced chemical analysis, to name a few. In reference, this special issue aims at introducing and highlighting the work of this new generation of tribologists to an extended audience. Furthermore, it intended to enable them to gain experience in publishing and, finally, to strengthen their visibility.

At this point, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Emerald Publishing Group for offering the special issue and to Prof Carsten Gachot for all his support, including the patronage of the symposium!

Yours,

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Industrial Lubrication and Tribology  
72/8 (2020) 985  
© Emerald Publishing Limited [ISSN 0036-8792]  
[DOI [10.1108/ilt-05-2020-0184](https://doi.org/10.1108/ilt-05-2020-0184)]