Editorial

It is with great excitement that I take over as the Editor-in-Chief of *ACM Transactions on Database Systems*. Looking back over the papers that have been published in *TODS*, it's easy to see the tremendous impact the journal has had, and it's humbling to be associated with such history. Iconic papers such as "The Entity-Relationship Model—Toward a Unified View of Data," by Peter Chen, "System R: Relational Approach to Database Management," by Morton Astrahan and colleagues, and "The Design and Implementation of INGRES," by Stonebraker et al., are just a few of the classics that have appeared in *TODS*. And aside from all of the history, one of the most exciting aspects of the EiC job is working with the *TODS* Editorial Board. The Board is an amazing group of researchers.

While *TODS* is healthy and continues to publish great papers, I think that we all need to acknowledge that this is a challenging time for even the very best journals in computer science. Conferences continue to be the preferred publication venue for many researchers. In particular, *TODS* seems to get relatively few original submissions focused on "hard core" database system building. I hope to listen to authors over the upcoming months to really understand why that is, but I suspect that some authors perceive that conferences have faster time-until-publication, or that perhaps the burden on authors is not as significant, in terms of pleasing conference reviewers. While there is some truth to that—*TODS* has very high standards—I hope we can convince authors that there are some key benefits to submitting original work to a journal such as *TODS*. Most obvious is that we can take the time to carefully match a *TODS* submission with an Associate Editor (AE) and reviewers who are world-class experts in the area of the submission. Reviews are themselves carefully reviewed by the AE and by the Editor-in-Chief, lowering the variance of the reviewing process. At *TODS*, we'll work really hard to make sure that we don't reject good papers.

I'd like to end this note by thanking the outgoing Editor-in-Chief, Christian Jensen, for his contribution to *TODS*. Christian ran the journal for six years, during which time *TODS* operated like a finely tuned machine. In the upcoming years, I hope to continue to pursue some of Christian's best ideas, such as obtaining closer integration between *TODS* and the ACM SIGMOD/PODS conferences.

Thank you, Christian, for your service!

Chris Jermaine
Incoming Editor-in-Chief

ACM Reference format:

Chris Jermaine. 2020. Editorial. *ACM Trans. Database Syst.* 45, 3, Article 10 (September 2020), 1 page.
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3417730>

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0362-5915/2020/09-ART10

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