



This issue of *Acoustics Today* salutes two very distinguished members of our discipline. In honor of his 100th birthday (which was March 6, 2015), we have a biography of Per Brüel,

truly a pioneer in acoustics and a name that virtually anyone in our field knows and respects. I recall, as a young investigator, purchasing my first B&K equipment, some of which I still have and value. I also recall wondering why all B&K instruments are light green in color, and the article gives the answer. (Sadly, however, between the time we received this article and its publication, Dr. Brüel passed away.)

The article is by Professor Leif Bjørnø, a friend and colleague of Dr. Brüel's and an internationally renowned acoustician in his own right. I mention this because one of the added benefits of being editor of *AT*, I've discovered, is getting to meet and interact with colleagues who I did not know but who are really interesting people. Dr. Bjørnø was particularly enjoyable to work with and we discovered mutual friends.

The second person covered in this issue is Dr. Allan Pierce. As the article by Jerry Ginsberg and Peter Rogers (both of whom Allan helped recruit to Georgia Tech) points out, everyone in the Acoustical Society of America (and probably everyone in any aspect of acoustics) knows, or knows about, Allan. And numerous people (including myself) have benefitted from Allan's mentorship, wisdom, and insights. But, like myself, few of us know the "real" Allan Pierce, and this wonderful article gives great insight into Allan's contributions as a consummate acoustician, educator, mentor, and leader.

While I met Dr. Bjørnø through the article in *AT*, I've known Peter Rogers for many years and we have collaborated in research and enjoying fine restaurants. A number of years ago, we discovered that we come from the same part of New York City, and we overlapped at George Washington High School (though I won't say which years!) and had many of the same friends. We did not know one another at GW because we were a year apart and the school was, back then, the largest high school in NYC.

Coincidentally, this issue of *Acoustics Today* features a number of articles about sound propagation. The article by Pete

Rogers and Domenic J. Maglieri arose during dinner when Pete and I debated the exact route of the No. 1 subway train in very far uptown Manhattan (I won!). During dinner, Pete told me the story of work he had done decades ago on sound propagation from the commercial supersonic airplane, the Concorde. I found the description so interesting and compelling that I insisted that Pete do an article for *AT*. Pete is joined in this article by Domenic J. Maglieri, one of the pioneers in sound propagation from supersonic aircraft.

A second article, which in a way is related to the first, is by Keith Wilson, Chris Pettit, and Vladimir Ostashev on sound propagation in air. Although the paper does not discuss the biological implications of the work it describes, I could not help but think about how the material discussed impacts animal communication and the effects of noise on animals and how it also provokes thinking about underwater acoustic propagation, a topic in which I am particularly interested.

Somewhat related is an article on sound emission from underwater pile driving (full disclosure: I am coauthor on this paper). The paper was first given by Peter Dahl at the May 2014 meeting of ASA in Providence, RI, where he had been invited to present as one of the "Hot Topics in Acoustics" papers.

Although not on sound propagation but on sound reception, a paper contributed by Matthew Goupell is on cochlear implants. This article also arose at the Providence meeting where Matt received the R. Bruce Lindsay Award, which is given annually to investigators under the age of 35. Interestingly, two other authors in this issue of *AT* (Rogers and Wilson) are also past recipients of this prestigious award.

Finally, this issue has a fascinating article on Bayesian analysis and its applications to acoustics by Ning Xiang and Cameron Fackler. This is a topic about which I knew nothing at all when Ning proposed it for *AT*. I am delighted that Ning made the suggestion because the authors provide an article that presents a broad understanding of the topic that is highly approachable and should be very valuable to colleagues in most any aspect of acoustics.

AT Intern

I am pleased to announce that Andrew "Pi" Pyzdek joined us as the 2nd *Acoustics Today* Intern on March 1, 2015. Andrew is a PhD candidate in the Penn State Graduate Pro-

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From the Editor

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gram in Acoustics. His research interests include array signal processing and underwater acoustics, with a focus on sparse sensor arrays and the coprime array geometry. Andrew also volunteers his time doing acoustics outreach and education as a panelist and moderator on the popular AskScience subreddit (see, for example, <http://www.reddit.com/r/AskScience>) and by curating interesting acoustics news for a general audience at ListenToThisNoise.com. Andrew's responsibilities as an intern will be to continue the really extraordinary work our first intern, Laura Kloepper, has been doing with social media. And it is very exciting that Andrew will be starting a monthly column to run on the AcousticsToday.org site that will provide insights into a wide range of acoustics issues but will be aimed at a broad audience who knows little about acoustics.

Finally, I want to congratulate Laura Kloepper on getting a tenure track faculty position in the Department of Biology at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. Laura sets a great precedent for AT Interns both as an intern and in moving ahead in her career. All of us who have worked with Laura are delighted with her accomplishments and wish her great success in her new position.

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From the President

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Some of you may be asking about the benefits of becoming involved in ASA. Service to ASA helps all of us become better scientists and professionals and better mentors and educators and serves the broader acoustics community beyond our own laboratories, schools, companies, or industries. This is accomplished through networking, fostering research collaborations, informing public policy, developing skills in meeting planning and organization, working with colleagues at institutions around the world, sharing ideas, and learning from others. Getting involved in ASA is a way to give back to those who helped us when we were starting out. Most importantly, service to ASA keeps ASA healthy and dynamic so it can support future generations who will generate, promote, and disseminate the knowledge of acoustics and its practical applications.

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