



Editorial

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The importance of energy in the present time can hardly be understated. The increasing demand of energy for industrial and commercial activities and from residential consumers has put huge pressure on the resources of all the nations of the world. As a result, energy seems to be one of the biggest crises of our time which deepens with the depletion of sources of energy. In particular, developing nations face a wider challenge owing to their limited resources of energy production. Failure of these nations to meet the energy demand results in shortfall of electricity leading to rationing of electricity which is carried out in the form of load shedding. This load shedding adversely affects the economic growth and results in recession of several forms, in addition to creating social problems. Since fossil fuels are considered to be the largest energy source this crisis is partly blamed on factors such as shortage of oil, increased global oil consumption and/or rising oil prices.

Addressing the energy crisis requires that concerted efforts are made in respect of exploring alternative energy sources, creating awareness regarding energy conservation, and optimizing generation and use of energy. An interdisciplinary research approach is, therefore, required in order to achieve these goals. Educational institutions have a vital role in this regard as they can provide necessary platform to conduct/disseminate related research. The NED University of Engineering and Technology has realized this role and has taken a professional approach of addressing this urgent issue. The idea of publishing thematic issue on Energy by the NED University Journal of Research is to provide a suitable forum to the researchers all over the world to disseminate their work in a timely fashion for the benefit of society.

This thematic issue in hand brings together ten original papers on a variety of perspectives related to energy. I am glad to inform you that authors outside Pakistan were also able to contribute in this issue. I am grateful to all the authors in helping the Journal in publishing this issue successfully. I hope that their support will continue in future, as well. I am also pleased to inform you that the next thematic issue is planned on Earthquakes which will be published in October 2012. The ‘Call for Papers’ for this issue has been circulated to researchers all over the world and is also available on our website. In addition, one copy of this ‘Call for Papers’ is included in the present issue for interested readers.