Four years have passed since I was first given the responsibility of providing guidance to our engineers in writing technical papers. My first impression, when I took up this position, was that some first-time writers of technical papers focused too much on the type of flow of information that one would associate with a PowerPoint presentation, and that they were not able to appropriately organize their thoughts into the form of a written argument. “Well, that’s the nature of the modern age,” I thought, and went right back to square one and convinced the authors of the importance of transmitting their ideas to others in writing.

Then, as I read paper after paper while pondering how to make them clearer and more logical in their presentation, I came to realize that it wasn’t just a matter of modifying a given expression, but rather, I felt the need to fully engage in the content of the papers, and experienced the excitement of creating a paper in discussion with its author. The thought processes of our authors are extremely impressive; drawing these out to the fullest possible extent is the real thrill of being an editor. And from now on, we must consider what people coming to oral presentations are seeking. How should we aim to communicate in our presentations? What I want to create is an opportunity for people to come together to discuss ideas.

(Eitao KOYA)