

FROM THE EDITORS

This special issue of *JTAM* (Vol. 56/2018, No. 2) is entirely devoted to the Polish Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (PSTAM), the Publisher of *JTAM*, on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

PSTAM was established in 1958 as an initiative of eminent Polish mechanics at that time – Witold Nowacki, Waclaw Olszak, Jerzy Mutermilch, Sylwester Kaliski, Witold Wierzbicki and many other scientists having outstanding achievements and international recognition. The initiators referred to a long tradition of Polish Mechanics going back to the time of Adam Adamandy Kochanski (1631-1700) and then intensively developed in the 19th and 20th centuries by world-known scientists like Jan Nepomucen Franke (1846-1918), Feliks Jasiński (1856-1899), Marian Smoluchowski (1872-1917) and Maksymilian Tytus Huber (1872-1950). PSTAM was a new scientific organization in Poland that entered into relation with the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) formed in 1949. Today PSTAM incorporates more than 1000 members and considerably contributes to the development of Mechanics and international scientific collaboration.

Exceptionally, this special issue includes invited papers only. Our invitations went to the scientists whom we know for their excellent research, conference activities and top-level earlier publications. It is an international group of authors. Part of them are members of the Editorial Board of *JTAM* who usually do not publish in our Journal. We would like to emphasize that all the invited papers have been reviewed within the standard editorial procedure of *JTAM*.

This special issue contains 16 articles reflecting research activities of the invited authors and their research teams. The papers comprise the following thematic areas:

- Thermo-elastic phenomena in continua,
- Instability and bifurcations in machinery,
- Mechanical properties of materials and structures,
- Numerical methods in mechanics,
- Solid-fluid interactions,
- Dynamic contact problems,
- Modelling and simulation of structures.

The topics being presented indicate problems in Mechanics that attract attention of scientists and are important for technological innovations and their applications in modern industry.

We would like to thank all the authors of the articles in this issue for accepting our invitation and contributing to the publishing output of *JTAM*.

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Włodzimierz Kurnik
Editor-in-Chief of *JTAM*

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Chairman of PSTAM