



Preface

This and next issue of the Engineering Transactions contain a selection of papers presented at the 40th Solid Mechanics Conference (SolMech 2016) held in Warsaw, August 29–September 2, 2016. Professor Waclaw Olszak (1902–1980), co-founder of the Institute of Fundamental Technological Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences and chairman of Polish Solid Mechanics Conferences since its inception in the year 1953 until 1970, was chosen as a patron of the conference. It is also worthwhile mentioning, that Waclaw Olszak founded the Engineering Transactions in 1952 (formerly edited in Polish as *Rozprawy Inzynierskie*).

The aim of these meetings is to bring together researchers from different countries and offer them the possibility for the presentation of scientific results from a wide area of solid mechanics. The SolMech 2016 Conference gathered 221 participants presenting their contributions, including 150 from Poland and 71 from abroad. The program of the conference with all thematic sessions, seven invited plenary lectures, and contributed papers with their abstracts, is available on the conference website: <http://solmech2016.ippt.pan.pl/>. In particular, two special sessions were organized: a session commemorating Professor Bogdan Raniecki and a session devoted to the anniversary of Professor Zenon Mróz.

On behalf of the Scientific and Organizing Committees of the 40th Solid Mechanics Conference I would like to thank all of the authors who have contributed to the Conference and to this special issue of the Engineering Transactions.

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Ryszard Pęcherski

Chairman of the 40th Solid Mechanics Conference