Symposium on

EDUCATION IN MECHANICS

chaired by Yi-Yuan Yu

Department of Industrial and Mechanical Engineering
New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark NJ 07102

I consider it my special privilege to be given the unique opportunity to organize this Symposium for the 12th US National Congress of Applied Mechanics on behalf of the Committee on Mechanics Education of the American Academy of Mechanics. It gives me great pleasure to have invited a group of excellent speakers for the Symposium, whose papers on mechanics education are published in this volume of the Congress proceedings. In fact, it is exciting to realize that the Symposium is the first to be held at a mechanics congress in which mechanics education as well as research is reported and discussed.

The Committee on Mechanics Education was created within the American Academy of Mechanics at the suggestion of James Dally and Martin Eisenberg in 1991. One of the main purposes was to strengthen the connection between research and education in mechanics. Since then, panel discussions on related subjects have been sponsored by the Committee and held in conjunction with other national meetings successfully. A panel discussion is similarly included as an integral part of this Symposium; it takes place after the speakers present their individual papers and reconvene as a group.

Aside from the Symposium, I have allowed myself to organize an additional session on Research and Education in Mechanics of Engineering Materials for the 12th US National Congress. The session is essentially a continuation of the Symposium. In it, the connection between mechanics and materials has been singled out, although connections with other disciplines and connections of other kinds may be pursued similarly. Again, I am very pleased to have invited another group of excellent speakers. On behalf of the American Academy of Mechanics and the Committee on Mechanics Education, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all speakers for their invaluable efforts to support the Symposium and the additional session.