

In Memory of Our Honorary Editor-in-Chief

Editorial Board of *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics*

Chien Wei-zang, one of the founders of modern mechanics in China, a world renowned scientist, educator, outstanding social leader, prominent leader of the Chinese Democratic League and a close friend of the Communist Party of China, the Vice Chairman of the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th National Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, the Vice Chairman of the 5th, 6th, and 7th Central Committee of Chinese Democratic League, the Honorary Chairman of the 7th, 8th, and 9th Central Committee of Chinese Democratic League, a senior member of Chinese Academy of Science, the President of Shanghai University, the Director of Shanghai Institute of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics, and the Honorary Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics*, passed away at the age of 98 in Shanghai at 6:20 AM on July 30, 2010.

All the members of the Editorial Board of *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* express their sincere condolence to the Honorary Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Chien Wei-zang.

Applied Mathematics and Mechanics was founded by Prof. Chien Wei-zang in May 1980. The purpose of this journal is to develop applied mathematics and mechanics in China, and promote exchange between the academic communities at home and abroad, cultivate the young talents, and serve Chinese economic development and science modernization.

At the first issue of *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics*, Prof. Chien Wei-zang said, "Ever since Sir Isaac Newton (1642-1727) laid the cornerstone of the modern mechanics, numerous facts in the development of mechanics have proved that mechanics and applied mathematics have been twin brothers. Being inseparable, they have relied each other and march along shoulder to shoulder. We may say that many branches of mathematics have been put forth from the necessity of the work of mechanics. On the other hand, these developments of mathematics have greatly promoted the development of mechanics. Moreover, thanks to this very fact, it has greatly reinforced and strengthened the capability of mechanics in solving the practical problems." Prof. Chien Wei-zang quoted a paper entitled "Tooling Up Mathematics for Engineering" written by Von Karman as the inaugural statement on the first issue of *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics*, and believed that the idea of this paper matched well with the objective of the journal. He always tried his best to initiate the scientists in applied mathematics and mechanics to care about the practical problems, thoroughly comprehend the physics behind the problem, and intensively study the basic principle of the mathematics analysis at the same time, tooling themselves with mathematics; and furthermore, to promote the cooperation between mechanics and other disciplines.

Prof. Chien Wei-zang also pointed out, "The developments of natural sciences have never been severed from academic democracy. In the pioneering stage of modern mechanics, Galileo (1564-1642) and others upheld the truth of natural sciences and struggled for academic democracy against the reactionary, religions and feudal persecutions. It was under such a situation that modern mechanics has grown up. In the last 300 odd years, the international development of mechanics also showed the vitality of "let a hundred flowers blossom; let a hundred schools of thought contend" all the time. The creative research works of Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier (1768-1830) and Albert Einstein (1879-1955) were the daring breaking-thought of some of the fossilized, traditional thought. If the promulgation of these breaking-thought research works were bound by taboos and convention, their creative thinking would be delayed or obstructed for at least some years to become the common wealth of the scientists. For the worst, the scientists could not meet them vis-à-vis and thus the development of science would be postponed and impeded. " Accordingly, Prof. Chien Wei-zang designed the communication system for this journal.

The first editorial board was composed of young and middle-aged scholars who were active in the research. There were only two academicians and a few established professors (such as Academician Tan Hao-sheng, Vice Editor-in-Chief and Prof. Ye Kai-yuan) among 57 members, and the rest were

associate professors and even lecturers (assistant professors). Now, all the first editorial board members become established professors including eight academicians, eight university presidents, vice presidents and vice governor.

From the very beginning, *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* was published both in Chinese and English, and it was the first journal in China published in this way. At present, *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* distributes in the world more than 50 countries and regions, and builds up reputation in academic circles. The journal is published by Shanghai University and distributed overseas by Springer-Verlag in Germany.

Under Prof. Chien Wei-zang's direction, *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* has been developing quickly. Founded in May 1980 as a quarterly, *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* became a bimonthly in 1981 and then a monthly in 1985. *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* has been indexed by US Engineering Index Compendex (EI Compendex) from 1990 and US Science Citation Index Expand (SCI-E) from 1997. It is the earliest journal indexed by SCI and EI simultaneously in China. Nowadays, it has been indexed by 21 retrieve systems, abstract comment journals and databases such as Chinese Science Citation Index (CSCI), Chinese Journal Full-Text Database (CJFD), Matmematical Reviews, and Zentralblatt MATH. It is evaluated as one of 17 most influential international mechanics publications by American Mechanics Academy of Science.

The journal was evaluated to be a double-effect periodical in China Periodicals Phalanx by General Administration of Press and Publication of the People's Republic of China in 2001, and entered into One-Hundred Emphasis Journals in the 3rd National Periodical Prizes in 2005 and Top 25 Chinese Periodicals according to the quoted frequency issued by ISI in 2006 (it was the only journal in the mathematics and mechanics class in China). It was also awarded National High-Quality Periodical Award in 2006.

Prof. Chien Wei-zang played a decisive role in the foundation, organization, development of *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics*. Here, we express our great appreciation to Prof. Chien Wei-zang for his distinguished contributions.

The Editorial Board will inherit the legacy of Prof. Chien Wei-zang, make *Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* a more influential and meritorious journal, promote the cause of applied mathematics and mechanics, and make more contributions to sciences.

Prof. Chien Wei-zang will live in our hearts forever!

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