

Preface

This issue of the Archives of Mechanics contains a selection of papers presented at the **35–th Solid Mechanics Conference**, 4–8 September, 2006 (Kraków, Poland).

Following a long tradition going back to the first Polish Solid Mechanics Conference in 1953, the objective of the 35-th International Conference SOLMECH was to provide a forum for shearing the research results and ideas concerning all major areas of contemporary mechanics of solids and structures. The program of the Conference included the opening lecture given by the Honorary Guest, Professor James R. Rice (Harvard University USA), 8 invited plenary lectures, 12 invited sectional lectures, 150 contributed lectures and 25 poster presentations.

In a delightful atmosphere of the Old Market vicinity, 226 participants from 25 countries have discussed the actual problems of the following subjects:

- Geomechanics
- Biomechanics
- Micromechanics
- Fracture, Damage Mechanics and Fatigue
- Thermomechanics, Phase Transitions and Shape Memory Alloys
- Elastic-Plastic Continuum and Other field Theories of Solids
- Mechanics of Structures and Optimization
- Shells: Theory and Computations

The Editorial Board of the Archives of Mechanics has kindly offered a possibility of publishing a special Conference issue of the journal, to commemorate 35-th Solid Mechanics Conference. On behalf of the Scientific and Organizing Committees of the Conference, I express our grateful acknowledgment to the Editorial Board and I wish to thank the Authors who have contributed to this special Conference issue.

Warsaw, July, 2007

Bogdan Raniecki
Chairman of the 35–th Solid Mechanics Conference
