



Celebrations for the 50-Year Anniversary of IFToMM

Marco Ceccarelli¹ · Tian Huang² · Teresa Zielinska³ · Juan Antonio Carretero⁴ · Tadeusz Uhl⁵

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During the 15th IFToMM World Congress on Mechanism and Machine Science (MMS) in Krakow, Poland on 30 June–4 July 2019, a special opening session has been organized to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of IFToMM with unveiling of a bronze commemorative plaque, Fig. 1.

In the 15th World Congress, 637 participants from 66 countries and regions have been registered and 437 papers have been presented in a dense program with 17 topic sections of the wide domain of MMS and the most relevant to the IFToMM Technical Committees. The Springer Nature in Series Mechanism and Machine Science published proceedings of 15th World Congress proceedings in five volumes, [1].

IFToMM was founded in 1969 during the Second World Congress on Mechanism and Machine Science in Zakopane, Poland with an act, Fig. 2, that was signed on 29th September 1969 by the IFToMM founding fathers, (see Appendix

1), during a special meeting establishing also the first Executive Council, Fig. 3, [2, 3].

A celebration session was planned with the following speeches of the living past IFToMM Presidents to outline the scientific and social aspects of the history of IFToMM:

- IFToMM: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow by Prof. Marco Ceccarelli
- The Forming of International and Personal Connections Through IFToMM inspite of a Turbulent World by Prof. Bernard Roth
- The Existential Question of IFToMM in the Twenty-first Century by Prof. Jorge Angeles
- Intersections Between My Career and IFToMM by Prof. Kenneth Waldron
- Let Me Think About The Gap Between IFToMM Globalism And The Economic Globalism by Prof. Yoshihiko Nakamura

In addition, a special set of posters on IFToMM history was exhibited in the Congress hall during the 2019 World Congress near the bronze commemorative plaque, Appendix 2.

At the end of the celebration session, the current IFToMM President, Marco Ceccarelli, and the Chair of the 2019 World Congress, Tadeusz Uhl, revealed the commemorative plaque, Fig. 4, among the enthusiastic applause of the congress attendees.

In Fig. 5 the living past IFToMM Presidents share their appreciation for the celebration.

Figure 6 shows the Executive Council members serving in years 2016–2019 surrounding the just unveiled plaque with satisfaction for the celebrations that were coordinated with the Congress organizers since the early days of 2016 with many discussions among World Congress 2019 organizers and the IFToMM Executive Council members.

Figure 7 is the group photo of the attendees at the end of the celebration session from more than 600 participants at the Congress coming from 66 countries and regions.

✉ Marco Ceccarelli
marco.ceccarelli@uniroma2.it

Tian Huang
tianhuang@tju.edu.cn

Teresa Zielinska
teresaz@meil.pw.edu.pl

Juan Antonio Carretero
juan.carretero@unb.ca

Tadeusz Uhl
tuhl@agh.edu.pl

- ¹ Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy
- ² School of Mechanical Engineering, Tianjin University, Tianjin, China
- ³ Faculty of Power and Aeronautical Engineering, Warsaw University of Technology, Warsaw, Poland
- ⁴ Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, Canada
- ⁵ Department of Robotics and Machine, University of Science and Technology AGH, Kraków, Poland



Fig. 1 The bronze commemorative plaque for the 50-year anniversary of IFToMM



Fig. 4 The reveal act of the bronze commemorative plaque

We, the undersigned chief delegates at the Inaugural Assembly of the International Federation for the Theory of Machines and Mechanisms (IFTOMM) here at Zakopane Poland on 27th September 1969, declare that we have founded the above-mentioned Federation and that we have adopted its Constitution which is attached hereto and decided to the following categories (see Article 8.4 of the Constitution).

Territory	Chief delegate	Proposed Category	Signature
Australia	JACK PHILLIPS	IV *	<i>Jack Phillips</i>
Bulgaria	George Rusanov	V	<i>George Rusanov</i>
German Democratic Republic *	Wolfgang Rössner	III *	<i>Wolfgang Rössner</i>
German Federal Republic *	Werner Thomas	III *	<i>Werner Thomas</i>
Hungary *	László TERPLÁN	IV *	<i>László Terplán</i>
India *	J. S. RAO	V *	<i>J. S. Rao</i>
Italy *	GIOVANNI BIANCHI	IV *	<i>Giovanni Bianchi</i>
Poland	Adam Morecki	IV	<i>Adam Morecki</i>
Rumania	Nicolae I. Manolescu	IV *	<i>Nicolae I. Manolescu</i>
United Kingdom *	E. Crossley	III *	<i>E. Crossley</i>
U.S.A.	DOUGLAS MUSTER	I	<i>Douglas Muster</i>
U.S.S.R.	<i>Y. Kobrinskii</i>	I	<i>Y. Kobrinskii</i>
Yugoslavia	Jan Oderfeld	IV *	<i>Jan Oderfeld</i>

Fig. 2 The founding act of IFToMM

Fig. 3 Announcement of the foundation of IFToMM on 29th September 1969. (Courtesy of IFToMM Archive) in which one can recognize: 1—Prof. Ivan Ivanovic Artobolevskii (USSR); 2—Prof. Adam Morecki (Poland); 5—Prof. Nicolae I. Manolescu (Romania); 6—Prof. Erskine F. Crossley (USA); 7—Prof. Giovanni Bianchi (Italy); 8—Prof. Aron E. Kobrinskii (USSR); 9—Prof. Werner Thomas (Germany); 10—Prof. Jan Oderfeld (Poland)



Fig. 5 The living past IFToMM President with the commemorative plaque in exhibition. (from left to right): Prof. Jorge Angeles, Prof. Kenneth Waldron, Prof. Bernard Roth, Prof. Marco Ceccarelli, and Prof. Yoshihiko Nakamura





Fig. 6 The members of the current IFToMM Executive Council with the commemorative plaque in exhibition (from left to right): Prof. Yoshihiko Nakamura, Prof. Can Dede, Prof. Tian Huang, Prof. Ashitava Ghosal, Dr. Jean-Pierre Merlet, Prof. Teresa Zielinska, Prof. Burkard Corves, Prof. Fernando Viadero, Prof. Juan Antonio Carrettero, Prof. Marco Ceccarelli



Fig. 8 Gifts at the 2019 IFToMM World Congress as memory of the IFToMM anniversary

The celebration finalized with a wine toast in a familiar frame and will live in the memory of all attendees through the specially designed celebratory congress gift to the attendees, Fig. 8.

Fig. 7 Group photo of the attendees at the celebration of the IFToMM 50-year anniversary



Appendix 1: Poster on the Founding Fathers of IFToMM at 2019 World Congress



IFToMM
International Federation for the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science

The founding fathers of IFToMM
by Marco Ceccarelli, IFToMM President 2008-11 and 2016 - 19

Founding fathers of IFToMM
(who signed the IFToMM act and members of the 1st Executive Council)

Academician Ivan I. Artobolevski (USSR)
Prof. Erskine F. R. Crossley (USA)
Prof. Michael S. Konstantinov (Bulgaria)
Dr. Werner Thomas (GFR)
Prof. B. M. Belgaumkar (India)
Prof. Kenneth H. Hunt (Australia)
Prof. Jan Oderfeld (Poland)
Prof. Jack Phillips (Australia)
Prof. George Rusanov (Bulgaria)
Prof. Wolfgang Rössner (GDR)
Prof. Zénò Teplán (Hungary)
Prof. Jammi S. Rao (India)
Prof. Giovanni Bianchi (Italy)
Prof. Adam Morecki (Poland)
Prof. Nicolae I. Manolescu (Romania)
Prof. Leonard Maunder (UK)
Prof. Douglas Muster (USA)
Prof. Branislav Ilic (Yugoslavia)



 <p>Ivan Ivanovich Artobolevski (Moscow 9 Oct 1905 - 21 Sept 1977) As professor at Moscow University of Moscow he was a worldwide expert figure in TMM for his activities (research, teaching, and organization) and publication productions. Besides the many original designs of mechanisms and systems, his most important work is considered to be the encyclopaedic publication in 5 volumes on classification of mechanisms that has been translated into several languages all around the world. He was one of the major promoters of IFToMM, and served as the first IFToMM President.</p>	 <p>Francis Rendel Erskine Crossley (Bdpa, UK, 21 July 1912 - USA 1 Feb. 2017) As professor at Purdue University he was a worldwide expert figure in TMM for his activities (research, teaching, and organization) and community organization. Besides the many publications and machine designs, his most important work may be considered to be his book Dynamics of Machines (1951). In 1969 he started the Journal of Mechanisms and Machine Theory. He was one of the major promoters of IFToMM, and served as the first IFToMM Vice-President.</p>	 <p>Michael Spirov Konstantinov (Sofia 22 March 1921 - 8 April 1991) As professor at Sofia University he was a worldwide expert figure in TMM for his activities (research, teaching, and organization) with first robot design and community organization. In 1973 he started the first laboratory on Robotics. He was one of the major promoters of IFToMM, and served as the first IFToMM Secretary General.</p>	 <p>Jan Oderfeld (Czestochowa 9 Feb 1908 - Warsaw 17 March 2010) As professor at Technical University of Warsaw he was a worldwide expert figure in TMM for his activities (research, teaching, and organization) and publication productions with an early focus properly focused on TMM. His most important design can be considered the development of an early jet engine. He was one of the major promoters of IFToMM and organizer of the 1969 IFToMM World Congress in Poland where IFToMM was founded.</p>
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Main IFToMM promoters

 <p>Adam Morecki 18 July 1923 - 11 Jan 2009</p>	 <p>Giovanni Bianchi March '11, 1924 - 13 Nov 2003</p>	 <p>Kenneth Henderson Hunt 7 June 1920 - 21 Aug 2002</p>	 <p>Jack Raymond Phillips 19 July 1923 - 11 Jan 2009</p>	 <p>Zdzislaw Ptaszowski 26 May 1924 - 16 May 1999</p>	 <p>Nicolae Manolescu 11 April 1907 - 10 Oct 1999</p>			
 <p>Jammi S. Rao 1 July 1939 - living</p>	 <p>Leonard Maunder May 10, 1927 - living</p>	 <p>Branislav Ilic 1907-1982</p>	 <p>Douglas Muster ??? - ???</p>	 <p>Wolfgang Rössner 27 June 1914 - 1999</p>	 <p>Zénò Teplán 25 May 1921 - 16 Jan 2012</p>	 <p>Werner Thomas ??? - ???</p>	 <p>B. M. Belgaumkar 1909 - 1989</p>	 <p>George Rusanov ??? - ???</p>

Appendix 2: List of Posters Exhibited During the IFToMM 2019 World Congress in Krakow, Poland

1. IFToMM officers (from IFToMM webpage)
2. What is IFToMM? (from IFToMM webpage)
3. IFToMM History (from IFToMM webpage)
4. IFToMM Founding Fathers
5. IFToMM Sponsored Conferences
6. IFToMM Awards and Honors
7. Activity of IFToMM Executive Council
8. SIOMMS IFToMM Student Olympiad
9. All WCs
10. WC 1987 in Seville
11. WC 1995 in Milan
12. WC 2004 in Tianjin
13. WC 2007 in Besancon
14. WC 2011 in Guanajuato
15. WC 2015 in Taipei
16. IFToMM Flyer

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