

15 YEAR’S IN SERVING PROMOTION OF SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT

The Scientific Journal of International Federation for the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science “Problems of Mechanics”, makes the rather difficult way since its founding 15 years ago.

For reference. *The IFToMM represents the federation of researchers from many countries in the field of Science of Machines and Mechanisms and has been functioning since 1969; it has constitution (regulations), accordingly of that it is functioning; every four years it holds the World Congresses, where are considered many scientific problems of field; was carried out the change of information on conducted researches and their advisable implementation; guides the scientific researches in federation member countries; carries out the publishing of articles in Federation Scientific Journals and so on.*

After the destruction of the Soviet Union the former Soviet Republics made attempts to become the member countries of IFToMM, amongst them was Georgia.

In 1992-1997 after the long-time communication with them IFToMM leadership (President A. Morecky, General Secretary L. Pust) determined that for enter of Georgia as IFToMM member country (VII category) was necessary annual payment up to 250 US dollars, that was rather difficult at that time.

Due promotion and support of the Rector of Georgian Technical University Prof. Ramaz Khurodze gave the letter of guarantee on annual payment 250 US dollar due that we are very thankful for him.

On 4 July, 1998 on meeting of Executive Council of IFToMM in Paris by secret ballot Georgia was emitted to enter as IFToMM member country. This decision as well as confirmation of Professor N. Davitashvili as Chairman of IFToMM Georgian Committee was confirmed by IFToMM General Assembly (Oulu, Finland) on 23 June, 1999.

In order to restoration in Georgia of scientific researches and presentation of their results in foreign countries that causes the change of information on researches between Georgian and foreign scientists and significantly promote the development of science, as well as will be possible to implement of results and conclusions of researchers from other countries we consider as advisable to take advantage of the opportunity of IFToMM constitution (regulations) – “IFToMM member counties rights and duties” and on 23 June, 2000 on the basis of “Merani 3” Publishing was founded of the Scientific Journal “Problems of Applied Mechanics”.

The scientific directions of Journal and its language (English and Russian – languages of IFToMM) were agreed with Chairman of IFToMM Chair of the Permanent Commission on Publications Professor T. Shoup. **The journal obtains the right to apply the IFToMM logo.**

On demand of IFToMM publications Commission and its Chairman Professor T. Shoup was necessary: to keep the IFToMM subject area; review and abstracting of scientific articles; keeping of issuance periodicity; availability of web-site; distribution of journal on required addresses. The Journal was conferred the international code ISSN 1512-0740, it has web-page <http://www.pam.edu.ge> and abstracts are sent to in Russia (VINITI).

In the matter of establishing this Journal as international level journal was done great bit by Porfessor T. Shoup, as well as (since August 2001) Professor Vincenzo Parenti Castelli.

In the Journal were published on English and Russian actual scientific works of Georgian and foreign scholars in Mechanics, Mechanism and Machine Sciences and so on. Exactly due this President of IFToMM Professor Kenneth Waldron on 20 November, 2001 wrote to Editor-in-chief of Journal (Scientific Journal “Problems of Applied Mechanics”, № 1(6), 2002, pp. 9-10): “On behalf of

the Executive Council of IFToMM, the International Federation for the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science, and particularly the Chair of the Permanent Commission on Publications: Professor Vincenzo Parenti Castelli, I extend best wishes for the success of *Problems of Applied Mechanics*. We, the members of the Executive Council, are very excited by this new partnership, which gives us an opportunity to serve segment of the professional Community in mechanism and machine sciences to which we do not presently have good access.

The interface between the Russian and English speaking technical communities has always been an important focus for IFToMM, and your journal provides us with a new way to address that interface that is needed because of the effect of changes in the political and economic landscape that have made some of our established activities less effective.

On behalf of IFToMM, I thank you for your interest in helping us serve the professional community in Theory of Machines and Mechanisms, and I know that the association between *Problems of Applied Mechanics* and IFToMM will be very successful one”.

By the decision of IFToMM Executive Council (Italy, 6-7 July, 2001) the Journal “*Problems of Applied Mechanics*” obtain the official status of international Journal and has web-page <http://www.iftomm.org/journals>.

Related to this issue in the Georgian Technical University the presentation of Journal (February, 2002, Tbilisi) was held, where was outlined the advantages of Journal, as well as its disadvantages. Was outlined circumstance that the Journal was self-funding. The preparation for publication in Journal of presented scientific articles due the lack of computer equipment was carried out outside the Georgian Technical University, and the printing service in “Merani 3”. Up to certain period (2001-2006) the Journal was under the patronage of Georgian Technical University. Due the changes in Georgian Technical University leadership (after the assignment of Professor Archil Motsonelidze as Rector) due the lack of funding the university refuses on Journal patronage and membership fee of 250 US dollar.

In this hard situation was possible to way out of due the promotion and support of director of R. Dvali Institute of Machine Mechanics Professor Tamaz Natriashvili. Since 2008 up to now the Georgian Committee of IFToMM and Journal were under the patronage of R. Dvali Institute of Machine Mechanics.

In 200-2004 were published 17 issues of Scientific Journal “Problems of Applied Mechanics”, in that were published 323 scientific articles. In the Journal were published the articles of Georgian researchers, as well as foreign scholars, in that were considered not only the problems of applied mechanics, but also the problems of mechanics in general. The analysis of published works reveals that the title of “Problems of Applied Mechanics” narrowed the all problems of mechanics, due that was confirmed the new title of Journal as “Problems of Mechanics” (decision of IFToMM Executive Council, 30-31 August, 2003, Chicago).

For the improvement of Journal’s scientific level the editorship comprehensively was attempting and is attempting to expand the content of journal, its format, distribution, etc.

At the end of 2003 I wrote to Engineering, Computer and Technologies Editorial Department, Thomson Science (ISI) to consider our Journal “Problems of Applied Mechanics” on assessment of citation index (impact-factor). The discussion on Journal was carried out during nine months and we sent № 4(9)/2002, № 1(10)/2003, № 2(11)/2004 of our Journal. Based on the guidance of ISI we strictly kept the periodicity, content and format. During the discussion on Journal ISI concentrated on geographical origination of Journal, journal citation data and so on. Unfortunately ISI makes significant attention on **geographical origination**. In ISI conclusion the journal’s citation data does not give the possibility of its assessment.

After 24 months by ISI offer (in July, 2004) we repeatedly addressed to them and for consideration sent during 9 months the following issues of Journal “Problems of Mechanics”: № 4(21)/2005, № 1(22)/2006, № 2(23)/2006. At evaluation of journal by ISI was add its distribution, published articles language and, of course, citation index that was not satisfied by Journal. ISI offer to us repeatedly address to them after 24 months.

The issue of Journal “Problems of Mechanics” printing and distribution is significantly depended on funding, the Journal is subjected the lack of funding (it is functioning with self-funding) and its solution is rather difficult.

The Journal editorship and personally I comprehensively are attempting to improve the status of Journal and level of its functionality. In 2005-2013 were published 36 issues of Journal “Problems of Mechanics”, in that were published 530 scientific articles.

The functioning of Journal especially was improved in 2008-2011. Due the direct support of Professor Marco Ceccarelli since 2008 the journal becomes only as English language. In 22 December, 2008 (Cassino, Italy) was signed the memorandum between Publisher of Journal, Editor-in-Chief and IFToMM, accordingly of which since 2009 the Journal becomes as official Scientific Journal of IFToMM <http://www.iftomm.org/journals>.

The editorship of Journal and personally I were very thankful for past President of IFToMM Professor Marco Ceccarelli for permanent supporting in improvement of Journal status and functionality. Also we are very thankful for director of R. Dvali Institute of Machine Mechanics Professor Tamaz Natriashvili.

On its 15 anniversary we wish and hope that Scientific Journal of International Federation for the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science “Problems of Mechanics” will actively continue its functioning and intensify the development of IFToMM science.

I congratulate the editorship of Scientific Journal “Problems of Mechanics” 15 anniversary from its foundation and wish successful activity.

Editor-in-Chief of Journal
Professor Nodar Davitashvili