

## Introduction

The European Community on Computational Methods in Applied Sciences (ECCOMAS) was created in 1993 with the aim of providing a high level of coordination of scientific conferences and related activities in Europe in the field of computational methods for the applied sciences. In September 2001, the ECCOMAS Computational Fluid Dynamics Conference was held at the University of Wales Swansea. The Swansea Conference was organised jointly by the UK Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications and by the School of Engineering, University of Wales Swansea.

Previous ECCOMAS Computational Fluid Dynamics Conferences had been held at Stuttgart in 1994 and in Athens in 1998. In addition, computational fluid dynamics has been a major topic at the ECCOMAS Congresses held in Brussels in 1992, Paris in 1996 and Barcelona in 2000. The next ECCOMAS Congress will be held in Jyväskylä, Finland, July 24–28, 2004.

Well over 300 delegates attended the Conference at Swansea and the programme included about 320 technical presentations. The Conference also included a special session in honour of Professor O C Zienkiewicz on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

This issue of the *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Fluids* and the next four issues will contain selected papers from the Conference.

K. MORGAN AND N. P. WEATHERILL  
*University of Wales Swansea*