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Professor Bu-Xuan Wang, Chinese Academician, on his 80th birthday



Professor Bu-Xuan Wang, Chinese Academician and professor of the Thermal Engineering Department of Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, celebrates his 80th birthday this year. It gives us great pleasure on this occasion to offer our sincere congratulations on his wide-ranging, life-long contributions to the development of the heat and mass transfer field both within China and throughout the world.

Professor Wang was born on 5 February 1922 in Jiangsu Province, China. He received his B.S. degree from Tsinghua University in 1943 and his M.S. degree from Purdue University (USA) in 1949, both in me-

chanical engineering. He joined Beijing University in 1950 and became an associate professor in 1951. He returned to Tsinghua University in 1952 and was appointed full professor in 1961. In 1980, he was elected an Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the highest honor awarded to scientists in China.

Professor Wang has been an influential educator of thermal engineering in China. He established the Teaching and Research Group on Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer in Tsinghua University in 1952, and has facilitated its growth over the years. He initiated or promoted such diverse fields as Engineering

Thermophysics, Solar Energy, and Thermophysical Properties of matter in China. He wrote 8 textbooks related to thermodynamics, heat transfer, and thermal engineering.

Professor Wang's research activities have covered a wide range of topics, including heat transfer with/without phase change, heat and mass transfer in porous media, thermophysical properties of matter, measurement techniques, biomedical heat transfer, energy planning and solar energy utilization. His most significant contributions have been in the areas of film boiling heat transfer in subcooled liquids flowing at high velocities and the simultaneous heat and moisture transfer in unsaturated and saturated porous media. His basic research on the film boiling of subcooled liquid flow and on the evaporation of liquid drops from 1981 to 1987 won the 4th *National Natural Science Prize* in 1989, the most prestigious Chinese award in natural science.

While the generation of new knowledge is central to Professor Wang's research, he has also undertaken industrial projects prompted by national needs. From 1963 to 1966, he led a research team seeking to improve the synthesis of ammonia in a large Chinese plant by enhancing the heat transmission and minimizing the energy loss to provide a better temperature distribution in the catalyst. The efforts resulted in doubling the daily production. During the 1970s, he conducted studies to find a way to protect the frozen soil from melting under railbeds due to strong sunshine in the Qinghai Plateau so that the trucks could run rationally all around the year.

Professor Wang has supervised many of graduate students since the national degree system was established

in 1981. He authored or coauthored over 300 scientific papers and more than 100 referred papers published in just the past decade. He continues to be actively involved advising graduate students, and submitting research proposals. He gladly talks with any graduate student and attends all the thesis defenses in the Thermal Engineering Research Group. He has chaired five international heat transfer conferences held every four years in Beijing to further promote the international exchange of information in heat transfer and is a contributing editor to numerous international and domestic scientific journals. He served on many governmental and professional committees and has received many prestigious national and international awards.

On behalf of Professor Wang's students, colleagues and friends from all over the world, we wish him many more years of happiness, good health and continued success.

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