

Foreword: Special issue celebrating the 70th birthday of Roman G. Strongin

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This issue of the *Journal of Global Optimization* consists of a collection of research papers dedicated to Professor Roman G. Strongin on the occasion of his 70th birthday. All papers

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in this volume are in one way or another related to the work of Roman. They cover a wide range of recent results in global optimization and belong to three areas Roman has worked in: namely, theory, algorithms and applications. Our special thanks are extended to all authors as well as to the anonymous reviewers.

It is very appropriate for this issue to be published in the *Journal of Global Optimization* since Roman has been on the editorial board since its inception in 1991 and has regularly published papers in the journal. Roman has been a leader and an innovator in our field for the past 40 years. His book on global optimization published in 1978 was one of the first in the world on this subject. Now it is a classic and has been used by many as their first introduction and continued inspiration for the field. Since that time Roman has published more than 300 papers in several scientific fields and has been rewarded with many national and international honours including the President of the Russian Federation Prize.

Roman has a tremendous knack for teaching and guiding students. His former Ph.D. students have gone on to be leaders in both the global optimization area and other scientific disciplines, and they continue to make contributions in many of the areas that he introduced them to. Roman continues to excite and inspire new generations of researchers in several fields by his deep approach to problem analysis and solution.

This text would be incomplete without mentioning his great managerial abilities in guiding science and education in Russia. For decades Roman served as Dean, First Vice-Rector, and Rector of the famous N.I. Lobachevsky State University of Nizhni Novgorod. Since 2008 he is the President of this university. He is also Vice-President of the Union of the Rectors of Russian Universities and Chairman of The Public Chamber of the Nizhni Novgorod Region.

In closing this tribute to our esteemed friend and colleague, we would like to thank Roman's wife, Rimma and their children Natalia and Pavel for their part in his tremendous career. We know that Roman would agree that their support and their continued encouragement have helped him a lot in reaching these remarkable results. We wish to join all contributors of this volume in expressing birthday wishes to Roman and look forward to many additional years of stimulating interactions with him.