



FOREWORD FOR VOLUME 12

It has become traditional for the Editor to say a few words at the beginning of a new year of publication of the *Journal of Fluids and Structures*, addressed to its readers, and it is my pleasure to do so this year once more.

The Journal has continued its steady progress to become *the* Journal in which to publish papers in *Fluid–Structure Interactions*, *Aeroelasticity*, *Unsteady Fluid Dynamics*, *Flow-Induced Vibration and Noise*, and *Flow–Acoustic Interactions*, in all realms: in the aerospace and marine environments, industrial machines and constructions, physiology, wind engineering, and so on — see the inner back cover — as well as in the general area of fundamental methods and techniques not related to any particular type of system. Analytical, experimental and numerical work is about equally represented in JFS.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD

As regular readers will have noticed, there has been a substantial renewal of the Editorial Board, caused in part by the untimely death of Professor Yasuharu Nakamura and a few retirements. The new Board is the largest and strongest ever, and hence best suited to handle the papers submitted in diverse areas, expertly, expeditiously and helpfully.

SPEEDY PUBLICATION

Casual perusal of the last two volumes will show that several papers are now *published in less than 12 months from first submission*. This shows that papers not needing drastic revision can and do get published within a year — always provided the authors do their part. The editorial team is committed to continuing and improving upon this service to the research community.

In most cases where a paper takes a long time to be published, the root cause are delays in revision and resubmission by the authors — either because a fundamental and extensive revision (with perhaps new work) is required or because of the pressure on the authors' available time and other work and duties. The editorial team does its best to help authors. The hallmark of JFS is to work together with the authors of worthwhile papers in a *constructive* way, until they reach the standards required for publication in JFS — provided of course the basic work itself is good enough in the first place.

SPECIAL BRIEF NOTES

This special feature has “taken off” over the past year. Its success owes a great deal to the ultra-rapid processing offered, to make *publication of the Note possible within four months from submission*. This “service” and appellation are reserved to Brief Notes (typically 10 typewritten pages long, with 2–4 figures) which report on breakthroughs, new and exciting findings, and so on.

SPECIAL ISSUES

We are committed to publishing from time to time a *Special Issue* on a special topic. Three are being planned, and at least one will be published this year. The attraction of a Special Issue is that it brings together contributions from prominent researchers in a relatively narrow field or a specific theme, and therefore serves as an excellent reference for anyone who wishes to do further work thereon, for years to come.

The *Special Issue on Vortex Shedding*, 9(5), in memory of Owen Griffin, a former Associate Editor of JFS, edited by Professor Charles Dalton, is a case in point.

WEB SITE

Instructions to authors and other details may be found on the www on: <http://www.apnet.com/jfs>.

With my best wishes to contributors and readers of the Journal, on behalf of the whole of the Editorial Board, I look forward to receiving your papers, Brief Notes, Special Brief Notes and Letters in 1998.

Michael P. Païdoussis
Editor