

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FACULTY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING OF LUBLIN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

The Evening School of Engineering was founded by government order on May 13, 1953. Professor Stanisław Ziemecki, Ph.D., was appointed the first rector, while Stanisław Podkowa, M.Sc., Eng., took the position of dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (which was the only faculty the School had at that time). The Evening School of Engineering was transformed into the Undergraduate School of Engineering by government order on April 28, 1965. Apart from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, the Undergraduate School of Engineering also comprised of the Electrical Engineering Faculty (established in 1964) and the Faculty of Civil Engineering (established in 1965). Finally, on August, 1, 1977, the Undergraduate School of Engineering was transformed into Lublin University of Technology.

During the sixty years of its existence, the Faculty has been developing dynamically, adapting its structure to the economic situation of the times. At present, the Faculty has 3147 full-time and part-time students and it offers six major programs in the following disciplines: mechanics and machine design, transport, materials engineering, biomedical engineering, mechatronics (offered together with the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), as well as management and production engineering (offered together with the Faculty of Management). The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering also offers a wide variety of refresher and training courses. In addition to that, there are numerous courses in English, which results in a higher and higher number of international exchange students who choose to study at the Faculty. Our graduates are highly valuable to potential employers and many of them decide to found their own companies.

The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering employs 137 teaching and research staff (including 30 professors and doctors with habilitation, 88 assistant professors and lecturers, 19 teaching assistants) and 103 non-teaching staff (engineering and technical, administrative, and support staff). The Faculty is committed to professional development of its academic staff. It has the right to award both the Doctor of Science degree (habilitation) in the discipline of machine design and maintenance and the doctoral degree in the following disciplines: machine design and maintenance, mechanics, production engineering. The research conducted by the academic staff of the Mechanical Engineering Faculty is of high quality, which is reflected in the ever increasing number of published monographs and papers in prestigious scientific journals, active participation of the staff members in both national and international congresses and conferences, as well as their cooperation with international research bodies.

The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering has close relations with business entities, mainly from the Lublin region. Owing to this cooperation, the Faculty staff are constantly developing new innovative technological solutions that are later granted patents. The Faculty is a leader on the national scale in inventiveness, or the number of inventions applied for patent protection.

Some of the actions that will be taken in the foreseeable future to enhance the potential of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering include:

- expanding the curriculum to include new fields of study as well as increasing the number of courses for overseas students;
- obtaining the right to award the Doctor of Science degree (habilitation) in another discipline;
- expanding the scientific and research base due to the creation of the Center for Innovation and Advanced Technologies of Lublin University of Technology;
- diversifying the sources of financing research and teaching activities;
- concentrating on the commercialization of its research and development work.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of our Faculty, I would like to wish all the staff members more success with their research and teaching work.

Because of this special occasion, the whole current issue of the *Eksploracja i Niezawodność – Maintenance and Reliability* includes selected papers presenting the best scientific results of our Faculty research groups.

*Professor Zbigniew Pater, Ph.D., D.Sc. (Eng.), Dean of the Faculty*