

Editorial



Dear readers,

On January 19, 1993, 25 years ago, the Croatian Academy of Engineering was founded as a scientific organization which brings together distinguished scientists from Croatia and abroad in the fields of technological and biotechnological sciences with the status of an independent scientific association.

It is certainly necessary to note how the Academy developed its activities over the past 25 years in various ways and in various forms in order to have an objective and consistent trace of its activities now and in the future.

It is customary for the Academy to present the appropriate form of its activities in the annuals of the Academy, which are issued yearly in Croatian or English. So, Annual 2016 of the Croatian Academy of Engineering was published in which our members in their papers deal with the current burning topic entitled “The State and the Future of Technical and Biotechnical Sciences in Croatia in the 21st Century” which certainly contributed to considerations and decisions related to the future of science and economy.

You now have in front of you our Annual 2017 - 2018 in English under the title “Annual 2017 – 2018 of the Croatian Academy of Engineering” with the subtitle “Twenty Five Years of the Croatian Academy of Engineering”. The significant aim of this edition is to make a contribution to marking the 25th anniversary of our Academy through the organizational and historical review of activities over the past years and to make you familiar with the type and membership of the Academy.

In addition to the informative presentation of the activities, an insight into the part of our members’ scientific work is given so that the Annual also contains a series of recent original papers of some of our members, giving the Academy additional scientific value.

Following this introductory part, dear reader, we would like you to get acquainted with the organization and history of the Academy and to see the detailed organization of our Academy that has evolved over the last years.

Particular emphasis should be put on a large number of organizational units which cover the diversity of as large a number of imagined activities of the Academy as possible.

Of course, this diverse activity requires a series of normative acts that cover these activities and are coordinated with the relevant legal regulations.

Therefore, the Annual presents a brief description of our normative acts with special reference to the Statute of the Academy.

Three comprehensive papers are dedicated to the twenty-five-year history of the Croatian Academy of Engineering described through the memories of the previous historical presidents, which gives the additional authenticity and quality of the presentation of work and events associated with the life of the Academy.

As the Academy has been establishing connections with the international science community since its beginnings, especially in the technical fields, there is a rich activity of the Academy in that sense.

The membership in Euro-CASE (the European Council of Applied Sciences and Engineering) and CAETS (International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences, where we take active participation in their work, provide a special support for this connection.

Particularly important are also agreements on cooperation with academies from other countries. A more detailed description of these co-operations is presented in the paper 'International Cooperation of the Croatian Academy of Engineering in the period 1997-2018'. We have paid special attention to marking this twenty-fifth year of the Academy, which lasts throughout 2018 in various ways, especially through scientific and professional meetings that will contribute to the wider community as well. The details of this marking are described below in '2018 - Celebrating 25 Years of Progress of the Croatian Academy of Engineering' and I am inviting the readers to participate in interesting events (www.hatz.hr).

In its ranks the Academy has a large number of prominent members who are widely recognized in our scientific and social community and have received significant acknowledgments for their work and contribution to the reputation of the academic community. It certainly deserves to be especially emphasized, so the following chapter "National Awards and Decorations of the Members of the Croa-

tian Academy of Engineering 1993-2018” and “Recipients of the Awards of the Academy 2002-2018” brings a list of our members who are the winners of social awards and decorations, and especially of traditional awards made by our Academy for years.

It is an opportunity for our readers of the Jubilee Annual to get acquainted with our members and their number in the special chapter ‘Members of the Academy in 2018 (Full Members of the Academy, Elected Members of the Academy, Emeriti of the Academy and Associates of the Academy in 2018’, ‘Honorary Members of the Academy in 2018’, ‘Deceased Members of the Academy (all categories) 1993-2018’. The current list of all the categories of our members that we are proud of is given. For historical reasons it is necessary to pay homage to our unfortunately deceased members since the foundation of the Academy until this day.

As the Academy maintains cooperation with the rest of the scientific community, and especially with the economy, the next chapter ‘Supporting Members of the Academy in 2018’ also presents our current corporate members in the category of supporting members of the Academy, whom we are particularly grateful for their contribution to the regular work of the Academy .

In 2017 the current leadership, i.e. the Governing Board, was elected, whose mandate lasts up to 2021. As this jubilee year falls within the scope of this mandate, we have found it desirable to present a shortened election program of work of the new Governing Board to give the reader an insight into the current activities of the Academy as presented at the end of the first part of the Annual in ‘A Short Overview of the Work of the Governing Board of the Croatian Academy of Engineering 2017-2021’.

The specific feature of scientific work of our elected members is a productive scientific publication in various editions at home and abroad. Therefore, we asked our members to submit their original unpublished scientific papers for this Jubilee Annual. The Editorial Board selected about sixteen papers from various technical fields for publication in the second part of this Annual. I believe that after reading these papers of our members in co-authorship with other prominent scientists you will acquire some new useful scientific knowledge in the area of technical and biotechnical sciences. We are especially grateful to the authors and their associates for their contribution which in our opinion contributes to increasing the reputation of our Academy.

In order to become more familiar with the scope of the activities of our members whose quality and number we are proud of, the last part of the Annual presents in the form of ‘Who is Who’ in our Academy, as we have done earlier, the basic in-

formation about our members and the reader will surely then gain the impression of the significance of the Croatian Academy of Engineering today.

Finally, as the Editorial Board, we apologize in advance for any unintended oversights, inaccuracies or incompleteness that may have happened in such a demanding edition, and I express my special gratitude to all the contributors to this monograph.

Editor in Chief
Prof. *Vladimir Androćec*, Ph.D.