

News Briefs

Check the website of USNCCM10 for updates to the Congress. **Abstract submission deadline is January 31, 2009.**

Conferences

ECCOMAS Thematic Conferences

NSF Summer Institute Shortcourse

Employment Opportunities

Post-Doctoral position in surgical simulation, RPI

Post-Doctoral Research Associate, RPI

2 Tenure-Track Faculty Positions, Univ. of Colorado

2 Post-Doctoral Position, Univ. of Texas at Austin

Post-Doctoral Position, Boston University

Clements Chair of Mathematics, Southern Methodist University

USACM News Editorial Board:

T. Bickel, J.S. Chen, T. Zohdi

Submit news items to info@usacm.org.

Olgierd C. Zienkiewicz 1921-2009



The world of computational mechanics was saddened to learn of the passing of one of the legends of the field, Olgierd C. Zienkiewicz, the beloved founder and first president of IACM and a historic figure in computational engineering. Olek is regarded the father of finite elements methods for engineering problems. He founded the Swansea school of computational engineering which has had a profound impact on the field of finite elements methods and from the early years of its development to today. The contributions of Olek Zienkiewicz are too numerous to list in this brief account; a more complete account of his life will be provided in a later newsletter. But a brief mention of only a few of his important ideas should include isoparametric elements, the patch test, a posteriori error estimation via the Zienkiewicz - Zhu methods, and novel applications to a wide list of problems in diverse fields of engineering. His many text books on finite elements educated several generations of engineers on the breadth, utility, and beauty of these methods. He and Dick Gallagher launched the *International Journal of Numerical Methods in Engineering* and other journals as well, and he set into motion several series of special conferences on specialized topics such as finite elements in fluids and metal forming. He received many honors and awards for his contributions from all over the world and two international medals awarded for outstanding work in computational mechanics are named in his honor. Olek is survived by his wife Helen, two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren. He will be missed by an enormous group of friends, admirers, former students, and colleagues from all over the world who remember him as warm, extremely bright, engaging person loved by all who had the good fortune to know him.

Call for Nominations - 2009 USACM Awards

Revised Instructions - Deadline March 1, 2009

USACM is pleased to accept nominations for its biannual awards, to be presented the USNCCM10 in Columbus, Ohio, July 16-19, 2009. These awards recognize outstanding contributions in computational mechanics. All members in good standing may nominate according to the [call for nominations and guidelines](#), which includes a complete description on each award. Nominations should be sent by March 1, 2009 (5PM PST) to USACM Secretariat at info@usacm.org or PO Box 8137, Austin, TX 78713.

Please note that there are some slight changes from previous announcement. However, all nominations received so far will be accepted as is.