

## Leon M. Keer Appointed New Technical Editor of the Journal of Applied Mechanics

Professor L. M. Keer has been appointed Technical Editor of the Journal of Applied Mechanics for a five-year term beginning January 1, 1988. Professor Keer succeeds Professor L. B. Freund, who completes his five-year term of service on December 31.

Ben Freund is a tough act to follow. His performance in running Journal operations, finding top candidates as Associate Editors, and interfacing with ASME's Publications Committee has been outstanding. Ben faced the same challenge five years ago when he succeeded C. S. Hsu, who served as Technical Editor during 1976-1982. The results of such leadership are evident in the current health and vitality of the Journal.

Leon's appointment is the culmination of a year-long search process. In accordance with the rules of the Applied Mechanics Division, the AMD Executive Committee established in the summer of 1986 a Search Committee to recommend candidates. The members were Jan Achenbach (Chairman), Richard Benson, Ben Freund, C.S. Hsu, Sid Leibovich, and Jim Rice. The committee forwarded its recommendations to the Executive Committee in June, and Leon was nominated and subsequently approved by the ASME Board on Communications. I should mention that the appointment requires a commitment from the Technical Editor's home institution; Northwestern University's willingness to provide the necessary office space is much appreciated. I should also mention that, having served on the previous search committee in 1981-1982, I can attest to the time-consuming nature of this work; we in the AMD are indebted to the search committee members for their fine service.

Leon M. Keer is Professor of Civil Engineering and Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering, as well as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Study at Northwestern University. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from the California Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. from the University



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of Minnesota; also, he is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of California. Leon has made important research contributions in the areas of stress analysis, fracture mechanics, geotechnology, mechanical contact, and tribology. He is a Fellow of the ASME and the American Academy of Mechanics.

With this appointment, Leon joins a distinguished group of key figures in Applied Mechanics. The Journal of Applied Mechanics is a central activity of the AMD, and enjoys a prominent position in the mechanics literature. We are grateful to Ben Freund for his leadership in maintaining that position and extend to Leon our warm support as he begins his appointment as Technical Editor.

Thomas L. Geers  
for the  
AMD Executive Committee