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Editorial

Bruno A. Boley was born in Italy in 1924. He received the B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from CCNY in 1943, his Sc.D. in Aeronautical Engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1946, and an honorary Sc.D. from CCNY in 1982. He worked at the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation from 1948 to 1950. He then returned to academic life, first in Ohio State University's Department of Aeronautical Engineering, and then as Professor of Civil Engineering at Columbia University. From 1968 to 1972, Professor Boley was the J.P. Riley Professor of Engineering and Chairman of the Department of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics at Cornell University. He joined the Technological Institute at Northwestern University in January 1973 where he served as its Dean until 1986, then continued as Dean Emeritus and Walter P. Murphy Professor of Engineering. Since September 1987, he has been a professor at Columbia University. Professor Boley was Visiting Professor at the Technical University of Milan (1964–65) and the Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London (1972).

B.A. Boley is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and past president of both the American Academy of Mechanics and the Society of Engineering Science. He has served on the Boards of Governors of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and Argonne National Laboratory. He is an Honorary Member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a Fellow of the American Academy of Mechanics, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Society of Engineering Science and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is also the founder of the Association of Chairmen of Departments of Mechanics. Professor Boley also chaired the U.S. National Committee of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics. He is Advisor-General of the International Association of Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (IASMiRT), and has served as Secretary of the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) Congress Committee. He is editor-in-chief of "Mechanics Research Communications" a technical journal published by Pergamon Press in cooperation with the International Center for Mechanical Sciences. Professor Boley is also a member of the editorial board of twelve technical and professional journals.

Professor Boley has published four books and over 100 papers in the fields of structural dynamics, elastic stability, applied mathematics, thermal stresses, heat conduction in solids and in problems of change of phase. One of his books, "Theory of Thermal Stresses," co-authored with J.H. Weiner, is listed in "Contemporary Classics in Engineering and Applied Science," ISI Press, Philadelphia, 1986, p. 316. He chaired the National Academy of Engineering's Task Force on Engineering Education in 1979–80. He has been the recipient of NSF and NATO Fellowships, the Townsend Harris Medal of the Alumni Association of the City of New York, the Th. von Karman Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Worcester Reed Warner Medal of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for outstanding contribution to the permanent literature of Engineering. In 2001, Professor Boley received the ASME's Daniel C. Drucker Medal in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the field of applied mechanics and mechanical engineering over a substantial period of time.

Professor Boley firmly believes that a solid grounding in the fundamentals of engineering basics is essential for work in advanced engineering mechanics. His work and his teaching have fostered and inspired the development and rise of diverse engineering fields such as bioengineering and micromechanics. This new focus on engineering as a life science has stimulated new interactions among the engineering sciences and facilitated practical computer usage in the field, as opposed to mere creative use. Professor Boley continues to inspire faculty and students alike.

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