

IACM Medal Acceptance Speech Delivered by J.N. Reddy

I want to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the International Association for Computational Mechanics for bestowing this honor. I consider it to be one of the most significant professional honors of my life.

I will do my best to live up to the high standard exemplified by the past recipients of the Gauss-Newton Medal – some of whom are present here tonight. My sincere and deepest respects to them; I feel deeply honored to be included among them. I have been fortunate over the years to have met and be inspired by the works of several previous recipients of the IACM Medal.

In the way of remarks and advice to younger colleagues in the audience, I have few thoughts to share. Some of the thoughts expressed here have already been included in my Timoshenko Medal acceptance speech published in the Journal of Applied Mechanics in 2019.

Computational mechanics has emerged as the “third scientific methodology,” in addition to the traditional two pillars of scientific inquiry, namely, mathematical and experimentation studies. Computational mechanics has contributed to unifying ideas

and bringing together diverse fields. It provides an important link between materials, design, and manufacturing. Therefore, funding agencies must see this important mechanics link in going from the creation of novel materials to analysis, design, and manufacturing and support the computational mechanics research that evaluates and certifies materials selection in the design. Lastly, we must take pride in whatever little we do to advance our field.

Once again, I thank the Major Awards Committee of the IACM for this prestigious award. No matter how much one deserves, it is not possible for someone to receive an award without the thoughtful consideration of the colleagues on the award committee and those who provide the support letters. I give my most sincere thanks to these unnamed colleagues. I also want to take this moment to thank my teacher and mentor, Professor J. T. Oden, and all my students and collaborators all over the world who have contributed to my professional success that enabled me to receive the IACM (Gauss-Newton) Medal. I thank my wife for her love, support, and sacrifice throughout our married life. Finally, I thank you all for your presence tonight, and I wish you and your families the best in life. ●

