



Foreword

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In Recognition of the 60th Birthday of Gerhard Holzapfel

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The *Journal of Elasticity: The Physical and Mathematical Science of Solids* is dedicated to the promotion of fundamental and physically based research which advances our understanding of solid mechanics and engages a breadth of disciplines including continuum mechanics, materials science, biology, chemistry, medicine, electromagnetics and rheology.

This volume is dedicated to Gerhard Holzapfel in celebration of his 60th birthday and in recognition of his scientific contributions, both theoretical and experimental, in the biomechanics area of soft fibrous tissues. His work, dedication, and community leadership has led to the constructive engagement and interaction of researchers across disciplines, from mechanics to medicine, that continue to advance our fundamental understanding of soft tissue mechanics and its application to human needs. The individual contributions of this volume are, for the most part, biomechanical and medical-applications based, and they attest to the professional depth of influence and personal presence that Gerhard has had within the community over the past two decades. It is fitting, and with a measure of gratitude to him for his research contributions and his editorial board membership, that the *Journal of Elasticity: The Physical and Mathematical Science of Solids* dedicates this volume to Gerhard Holzapfel.

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