FOREWORD

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Glorious Missions Assigned by the Human History

Frontiers of Engineering Management, after two years' preparation, came, in spring 2014, to offer its readers, with the mission and the editor inclination to promote the advancement of engineering management, so as to propel the advancement of engineering science and technology.

It is a general consensus of the scientific communities that engineering science is a complex system of applied sciences, with the newest achievements in natural and social sciences as its footing stones, the newest technological sciences as its pillars, and the wisdom and survival skills created by man's ancestors as its cultural attributes. It is its mission to contribute to the development and improvement of society with various services as in establishment of modern industries, acceleration of productive forces and improvement of people's livelihoods.

Effective engineering constructions are often crucial for successful industrialization and modernization, and engineering management institutions are the headquarters that command construction teams, that shape implementation procedures and allocate material and human resources, and that decide the outcomes of engineering activities. Engineering management institutions have to shoulder colossal responsibilities; and large-scale constructions bring up top engineering leaders and commanders.

Scientific principles, observed and proved, either in mathematics, physics and chemistry or in astronomy, geology and biology, provide theoretical resources and behavioural standards for engineering technology, and legal foundations and moral baselines for engineering management. When already-acquired knowledge fails in treatment of new issues, new theories are conceived and new methodologies are proposed, which, after experiments, might be finally applied in engineering. And many cases in the history of sciences show that solution of new problems with engineering can serve as the major driving force to the advancement of basic sciences.

Everyman lives in history, enjoying himself with the heritages of his predecessors, working for existence in today's world, and contributing to constructions that may bring happiness to his descendents. He, with his body made of the genes copied from his ancestors, eats the grains his forefathers raised, wears the clothes his forebearers invented, and walks on the roads his foregoers blazed. Engineering technology was first developed by man's ancestors in the remote cave times, and the farming fields, reservoirs, bridges, canals and defense walls around man exhibit wits and skills of all past generations. The heritage of the past is an inexhaustible treasure-house for engineering management.

There are no final states for history, society, science and truth. History is extending, society is developing, science is advancing, knowledge is expanding, and engineering science will necessarily flourish with the waves. It is reasonable to believe that *Frontiers of Engineering Management* can provide a new platform for the academic communities, to exchange experiences, to disseminate new theories and new methodologies, and to promote development and popularization of the fledgling science of engineering management.

It is the glorious missions that history assigns to the academic people who have the fortune of working in this field to advance engineering science and to improve engineering management.

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