Forward

It is with great pleasure that we dedicate this double issue of the Journal of MATHEMATICAL PROBLEMS IN ENGINEERING to Prof. Robert E. Skelton on the happy occasion of his 60th birthday. As part of this celebration, a highly successful technical mini-symposium was held in his honor at the University of California, San Diego in December 1998. The papers in this special issue comprise a set of papers that were peer reviewed in accordance with the standards of this Journal. As can be seen, these papers cover a wide range of topics from robustness of control systems, guidance, covariance control, Q-Markov COVER Identification to nonlinear and sampled data control systems attesting to the great influence BOB Skelton had on the research directions of many of his students, colleagues and professional peers. Bob Skelton had and continues to have very positive impact on the professional careers and standards of many of his former students like us and we are very grateful to him for that. These special issues form a fitting tribute to Bob Skelton's many contributions to our controls field.

Thank you Bob for being a great teacher, friend and colleague and we wish you many more happy birthdays filled with productive contributions from you.

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