

Dear IFToMM President

Dear EC Members

Dear All

While I was a graduate student at UNAM, I learned about IFToMM foundation (by conversation of professors and distinguished engineers). Later, after the IFToMM World Congress held in Montreal in 1979, the comments of this group of professors were about the success of that congress. From that moment on, my interest in knowing and becoming part of such international federation grew. Time went by and it was until 1996 when I attended, by first time, the EC meeting held at Udine, Italy. Then, in 1999, I attended the famous IFToMM World Congress held at Oulu, Finland. In that congress I met our current President and I realized that the attendees, in addition to discussing trends on research about machines and mechanisms and other interesting engineering problems, they also behave as real engineers, that is, they also enjoyed life.

I have had several positions in IFToMM organization. First, I became Chair of the IFToMM Mexican Commission, and then EC Member. I attended the world congresses held on Tianjin 2004 and Besancon 2007, where I was elected as Secretary General for the period 2008-2011.

In this period, I have been part of this great organization, where some of the objectives have been focused in enhancing its functionality, promote its visibility through its sponsorship and patronage of scientific events and awards, and try to affiliate more Member Organizations (MOs). Unfortunately we have lost three MOs, but, through the effort and work of our President, there are many interested MOs wishing to join IFToMM.

Therefore, I must thank our IFToMM founding fathers, and past EC Members who believed in IFToMM success. Their effort through these forty years has been remarkable, and we will struggle to continue on this trend.

Happy 40th Anniversary of IFToMM!

Prof. Carlos S. López-Cajún

Guanajuato, Gto, September 30, 2009