

## On Mechanics/Engineering Science Education

**Carl T. Herakovich**

*University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA*

This paper discusses the role of mechanics and engineering science education in a re-engineered 21st century engineering education. The fundamental thesis of the paper is that mechanics education (at least in the United States) has not met the challenges presented by our rapidly changing society where science and technology has replaced engineering as the prime motivator of new ideas. The end result of this is that science and technology is more highly recognized and valued than is engineering. This is no more evident than in the levels of funding by the U.S. government and student enrollments for science and technology as compared with engineering. It is recommended that mechanics become more of an engineering science curriculum with a corresponding increase in courses outside the traditional realm of mechanics and engineering.

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