

Preface

The Australasian Heat and Mass Transfer Conference, held in Sydney in December 1996, is the sixth in an ongoing series. Previous Conferences have been organized in various parts of Australia by ad hoc committees specifically convened for that purpose. This Conference was conducted under the auspices of the Australasian Fluid and Thermal Engineering Society, a Technical Society of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, and it is anticipated that future Conferences will likewise be sponsored by that body.

The Conference was held in honor of Emeritus Professor Graham de Vahl Davis, to celebrate his significant contribution to the understanding of natural convection, and his pioneering and continuing work in developing computational techniques for research in heat and mass transfer.

These proceedings contain the text of six invited keynote papers and 63 contributed papers. The papers have been organized into 12 sections, preceded by a keynote paper wherever possible. Since the members of the Organizing Committee believe that the Australasian Heat and Mass Transfer Conference is an important international event, all papers were reviewed by at least two reviewers, and authors were required to incorporate the suggested alterations. Furthermore, the final versions of the papers were required to include any modifications which resulted from the discussion at the Conference. Consequently, these proceedings are being published after the Conference, and represent a record of significant work.

I would like to thank all the members of the Scientific Committee for their invaluable advice and support, in particular with the review process; the members of the Organizing Committee for their assistance in organizing the meeting; the reviewers who gave generously of their time to assist in the selection process; Dr. Madhusudana, the Conference Secretary and Co-Editor, without whose unstinting work this Conference would not have taken place; Mary Rolfe for her cheerful and efficient assistance with all the clerical aspects of the Conference; and the volunteers, Y. Li, S. Wahid, and E. Villanueva, for their help during the Conference.

John Reizes
Chairman, Organizing Committee