

## Dr Liviu Librescu

Dr Liviu Librescu was shot dead at Virginia Tech on Monday 16 April as he protected students by blocking the doorway of his classroom from the approaching gunman. This provided sufficient time for the students to escape via the windows. The paper, 'Modelling and vibration of a non-classical tilt-rotor wing system' by O. Song, H. D. Kwon and L. Librescu, was scheduled to appear in the May issue of *The Aeronautical Journal* and an e-mail was received from Dr Librescu the evening before his death with the final corrections to the proofs.

Dr Librescu was Professor of Engineering Science and Mechanics, in the Department of the same name at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and was well known for his research across a range of subjects in structural mechanics and aerodynamics. His major fields of study included: aeroelasticity, composite materials, sandwich type structures and the post buckling behaviour of plates. He is the author of around 250 papers in peer-reviewed journals, including several in *The Aeronautical Journal*. We are honoured to publish Dr Librescu's paper in this issue and acknowledge both his outstanding contributions to aeronautical engineering and his bravery.



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This work is valuable not only in terms of the Society's charter objectives but also financially, as the conference programme contributes to the Society's annual income.

In addition to planning these conferences and lectures, the Groups also act as focal points for the information enquiries and requests received by the Society. The Groups therefore form a vital interface between the Society and the world at large, reflecting every aspect of the Society's diverse and unique membership.

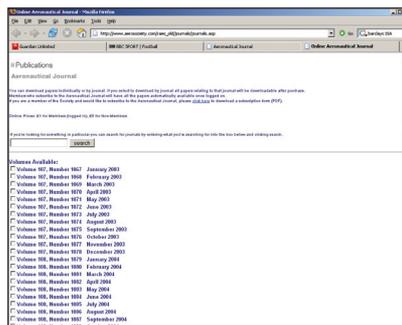
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1. Miller, P and Wilson, M. Wall jets created by single and twin high pressure jet impingement, *Aeronaut J*, March 1993, **97**, (963), pp 87-100.
2. Green, J.E., Weeks, D.J. and Brooman, J.W.F. Prediction of turbulent boundary layers and wakes in compressible flow, ARC R&M No 3791, 1979. and for books<sup>(3)</sup>
3. King-Hele, D. *Satellite Orbits in an Atmosphere*, Blackie, Glasgow, 1987.

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