For the past 50 years Roman Strongin has been a leader and an innovator in Global Optimization being an important field of Numerical Analysis having numerous real-life applications. His book on global optimization published in 1978 was one of the first in the world on this subject. Now it is a classic and has been used by many as their first introduction and continued inspiration for global optimization. Since that time Roman has published numerous books and more than 400 papers in several scientific fields and has been rewarded with many national and international honors including the President of the Russian Federation Prize.

Roman has a tremendous knack for teaching and guiding students. His former Ph.D. students have gone on to be leaders in both the global optimization area and other scientific disciplines, and they continue to make contributions in many of the areas that he introduced them to. Roman continues to excite and inspire new generations of researchers in several fields by his deep approach to problem analysis and solution.

This text would be incomplete without mentioning his great managerial abilities in guiding science and education in Russia. For decades Roman served as Dean, First Vice-Rector, and Rector of the famous Lobachevski State University of Nizhniy Novgorod. Since 2008 he is President of this university. He is also Chairman of the Council of Presidents of Russian Universities, Vice-President of the Union of the Rectors of Russian Universities, and Chairman of the Public Chamber of the Nizhniy Novgorod Region.

In closing this tribute to our esteemed friend and colleague, we would like to thank Roman’s wife, Rimma and their children Natalia and Pavel for their part in his tremendous career. We know that Roman would agree that their support and their continued encouragement have helped him a lot in reaching these remarkable results.

We are expressing birthday wishes to Roman and look forward to many additional years of stimulating interactions with him.