



September 28, 1962

To Members of the Faculty:

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Ronald F. Probst, an outstanding leader in the field of theoretical fluid mechanics, as Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the School of Engineering.

Dr. Probst received the Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering degree in 1948 from New York University. Princeton University awarded him the degrees of Master of Science in Engineering in 1950, Master of Arts in 1951, and Doctor of Philosophy in 1952. He comes to M.I.T. from Brown University where, since 1959, he had been Professor of Engineering and, in addition to his teaching responsibilities, had participated actively in government-sponsored research and was Director of the ARPA program on re-entry physics and a USAF program on hypersonic and rarefied flow research. In 1961 he was a member of the Re-entry Physics Study Panel at Lincoln Laboratory.

As a teacher, Dr. Probst has developed new undergraduate courses in fluid mechanics, gas dynamics, supersonic flow and classical physics. His book "Hypersonic Flow Theory," co-authored with Professor Wallace D. Hayes of Princeton University, is an outstanding technical text in the field.

He spent the 1960-61 academic year as a Guggenheim Fellow and visitor in the Department of Mathematics at M.I.T. He was invited to give lectures in hypersonic flow at the Soviet Academy of Sciences in 1959 and has served in lectureships at the University of California, Berkeley (1960), and at the University of California, Los Angeles (1961).

Dr. Probst is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi, Pi Tau Sigma, and Tau Kappa Alpha. He has recently been elected a Fellow of the American Rocket Society and is chairman of the Society's committee on hypersonics. He is also an Associate Fellow of the Institute of the Aerospace Sciences, a member of the American Physical Society and a Sponsor in Gasdynamics of the Applied Mechanics Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

GORDON S. BROWN
Dean, School of Engineering

Probst
App't
G.S. Brown
letter