



Presidents Message

The growth pains of any profession includes much discussion of basic issues. There are no building blocks more fundamental than ethics and ethical behavior. At more and more meetings of our members I hear discussion about this.

In fact, our own ethics committee is drawing up new proposals to match the recently voiced concerns. Our chairperson met unofficially recently with her counterpart in the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. Such input is fruitful and provides needed direction to our own efforts.

A concern which is outside the purview of whatever ethics code AmSECT may develop, deals with those individuals whom cardiovascular perfusionists, hemodialysis and transplantation technologists meet and greet with great frequency—the sales representatives of manufacturers.

As we all know, many manufacturers have been extremely good to AmSECT. Their support has made many of our programs and projects possible.

In the same vein, the sales reps are the first we cry for or bellow at when we have difficulties. They are also a primary source of information on what's new or what's happening.

However, concern has been expressed about methods of securing business, and about the accuracy of "news" passed along by sales reps.

I would suggest that these concerns need not exist if AmSECT members assumed the posture that sales reps should be listened to and products accepted or rejected on the basis of features—quality, performance, economy—ONLY. Further, unusual or startling news events should be doublechecked at the source. It's a simple task—AmSECT members can communicate with one another.

Sincerely,
Charles Reed