

PREFACE

This issue of *The Journal of Extra-Corporeal Technology* contains the Proceedings of the 25th International Conference of the American Society of Extra-Corporeal Technology, held March 20–23, 1987, in Louisville, Kentucky. More than 1,200 perfusionists, students, manufacturers and guests attended.

The objectives of the Conference were threefold: to advance liaisons among the scientific and technological disciplines interested in contributing to the further growth of perfusion and its related technologies; to facilitate personal contact and the exchange of information among the persons attending; and to celebrate the 25th International Conference of the Society.

Our Proceedings papers represent a broad mix of the perfusion community. The majority of those who presented at this last Conference had never done so before. Other presenters are educators, researchers, students, community and university based perfusionists and “old hands.” Persons from Thailand, Italy, England and France also presented papers that are published here.

It is hoped that this special issue will serve as a challenge to perfusionists, so that they may explore new areas and refine existing concepts.

A free flow of information at the Conference was facilitated by the allowance of a 10 minute discussion following each presentation. These exchanges, we hope, will further stimulate the work in and refinement of the art of perfusion.

The Proceedings, published with only minor editorial revision, and not having undergone the full referee process, report the 24 papers that were presented, along with the discussions with the audience that occurred after most presentations. Generally, the published papers provide more detail than is possible during the oral presentations at the Conference. It is hoped that the printed versions will promote a more complete understanding of the works discussed.

The hours of intensive work and deliberation, as well as the research work itself that has been condensed in this report, will offer guidance to those professionals involved in new efforts in the perfusion field and its related technology.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff Riley and the *Journal* staff, Shirley Nuhn and the AmSECT National Office staff, and all others who participated, directly and indirectly, in the Conference and in the production of these Proceedings.

William B. Pelley
Editor