Dear Reader:

As I peruse the Table of Contents for this issue, I am impressed by the striking and continual evolution of the technology of extracorporeal circulation. The advances made in a mere forty years are nothing less than phenomenal.

When I started in perfusion in the 1970’s, a pump run in excess of three hours was almost always accompanied by unacceptable morbidity. Now with improved equipment and a better understanding of the science of extracorporeal technology, we are able to replace hearts and support patients for days, as described in the Case Report.

The applications of the science of perfusion are just being realized. We might all play a part in this expansion of our discipline. The paper on low flow whole body hyperthermia in this issue is an exploration of just such a possible use of the technology.

We may be presented with potential roles for both us and our technology by being aware of progress in other medical specialties. And just as importantly, this awareness may offer us ideas and techniques that can be incorporated into our practice of perfusion. I hope the visionaries among you will publish your findings in the Journal!

Sincerely,

Phyllis Palmer Stark, CCP
Editor