



## PREFACE

On behalf of the International Society of Biorheology and the International Society for Clinical Hemorheology, we have the honor and great pleasure of welcoming you to the Big Sky 1995 meeting. This is a joint conference of the 9th International Congress of Biorheology and the 2nd International Conference on Clinical Hemorheology.

At the request of a number of people, we dedicate this international meeting to the memories of the late Alex Silberberg and Hellmut Hartert, leaders in our Society and in the many areas of biorheology and hemorheology represented by the contributions to this meeting.

The meeting is composed of six plenary lectures, the Poiseuille Award lecture and a debate on the question of the importance of red cell aggregation in *in-vivo* blood flow. Thirty-two symposia, covering research on the molecular to the whole organ scale and involving blood as well as other materials, such as mucous, cerebrospinal fluid, soft tissues, and natural products, treat their subjects from viewpoints ranging from molecular mechanistic studies to clinical applications.

This meeting has a number of unique aspects. First of all, it is located in the mountains of western Montana, USA, near Yellowstone National Park. This is a venue free of usual distractions, which should greatly encourage the exchange of scientific knowledge, lead to establishing collaborations and foster new friendships. In the spirit of the place, we have chosen three after-dinner speakers who will discuss and illustrate the history of the region, the

catastrophic historic events that make Yellowstone Park the place it is today and the mammals and birds inhabiting the Rocky Mountains. Wednesday has been set aside for an all-day bus tour of Yellowstone Park and an evening western barbecue, where a western band and Native American dancers will entertain. For those who are not involved in the scientific proceedings, additional activities will be available.

In keeping with the growing trend at most scientific meetings, the organizing committee has decided that all 316 free communications will be presented as posters, with about 105 posters in each of three sessions. This method of presenting new and exciting scientific information has been receiving growing and enthusiastic acceptance. It allows almost unlimited time for informal and intensive discussion of details of the research, thereby greatly enhancing information exchange. We strongly urge all those with poster presentations to make the most of this opportunity by creating highly informative posters and by being available at their poster(s) during the two scheduled viewing times.

We extend our warmest greetings to all the participants and accompanying guests of this joint international conference.

Giles R. Cokelet  
Chairman, 9th ICB

Herbert J. Meiselman  
Chairman, 2nd ICCH