

Laudatio for the Fahraeus Lecture 2005

Fahraeus Awardee – Professor Michel René Boisseau, MD

Laudatio held during the 13th Conference of the European Society for Clinical Hemorheology (E.S.C.H.), Siena, Italy, June 26th–29th, 2005

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Dear friends and colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

In Sofia, two years ago, Jean-Francois Stoltz made me the precious gift of honoring me with the Fahraeus medal [1]. I was the eleventh award-winning, after Shu Chien, John Dormandy, Holger Schmid-Schoenbein, Jean-Francois Stoltz, Tullio Di Perri, John Stuart, Herb Meiselman, Albrecht Ehrly, Siegfried Witte and Gustav Born. It is with great pleasure that I now introduce the 12th award-winning, Michel René Boisseau. As per protocol, the medal has been conferred after a complicate (and tight, seen the high level of the candidates) two-step ballot election by the members of the Advisory Committee of the European Society for Clinical Hemorheology plus the previous winners.

A native of Bordeaux, France, Professor Michel Renè Boisseau defended his medical thesis in 1967 and became professor in Haematology and Biology in 1972 in the University of the same city. He served in the army as a physician and received 4 officer's bands. During his studies, he received further training in Natural Sciences, Medical biology and Medical Pathology. He has been head of the Haematological laboratory at the University hospital, professor of Haematology, Biology, Angiology, Geriatrics, as well as Member of the University Council until 2002, when he retired. During the last 12 years of his tenure he was also Dean of the Medical University Victor Pachon. He is a member of the board of the "College Francais de Pathologie Vasculaire", vice-president of the "Societe Francaise de Microcirculation", and, of course, member of the board of the European Society for Clinical Haemorheology. He has greatly contributed to this research field, with more than 600 publications and 15 book chapters. He has provided new insight in the field of thrombosis and endothelial cells adhesion, and he has investigated the physiopathology of chronic venous insufficiency. Of course, he is a leader in the field of Clinical Hemorheology. He was the organizer and the Chairman of the 5th European Conference, held in Bordeaux in 1987. Among his achievements, he described the importance of phosphatidyl-serine as a red cell adhesion receptor in the development of cardiovascular disease, and he investigated the mechanisms of leukocyte adhesion. Among his most recent activities, he focused on the effects of Armagnac [2] on parameters of endothelial, platelet and microvascular function. I am sure this research gave him much satisfaction beyond its scientific results. While his appreciation for Armagnac is witnessed in print, his

fondness of ice-cream is less well known but can be easily proven, as you can see in the picture. I shot this picture in 1986 in Vancouver where this group of distinguished hemorheologists (Gordon Lowe, Michel Boisseau, Gert Schmid-Schonbein and Peter Gaehtgens, plus myself behind the camera), were attending the 6th International Congress of Biorheology and visiting the Expo.



The Fahraeus medal was designed in 1980 by Al Copley [3–5]. The main face represents the circulation while in the back face there is a portrait of Robin Fahraeus, with the name of the award-winner.



It is an honor for the European Society for Clinical Hemorheology to bestow the Fahraeus Medal to Michel Renè Boisseau celebrating his achievements in this field.

And now prof. Boisseau is kindly invited to give his Lecture.

References

- [1] J.F. Stoltz, Laudatio for the Fahraeus Lecture, Fahraeus Awardee – Professor Sandro Forconi, MD, *Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation* **30** (2004), 153–154.
- [2] A. Umar, M. Boisseau, MC. Segur, B. Begaud and N. Moore, Effect of age of Armagnac extract and duration of treatment on antithrombotic effects in a rat thrombosis model, *Thromb Res.* **111/3** (2003), 185–189.
- [3] A.L. Copley, Notes on the Fahraeus Medal, *Clinical Hemorheology* **1** (1981), 415–417.
- [4] A.L. Copley, Notes on a line drawing for the Fahraeus Award, *Clinical Hemorheology* **3** (1983), ix–x.
- [5] A.L. Copley, The Robin Fahraeus Memorial Lecture: Robin Fahraeus – The scientist and the person, *Clinical Hemorheology* **9** (1989), 395–433.