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FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BIORHEOLOGY

CONVOCATION AND POISEUILLE AWARD CEREMONY

Chairman: Siegfried Witte
President of the International Society of Biorheology

INTRODUCTION

It is for me a great honor and pleasure to be able to open this meeting for the award of the Poiseuille Gold Medal. We opened our Congress without a ceremony but this most honorable moment for our Congress and for the International Society of Biorheology will make up for the omission. The International Society of Biorheology presents its highest scientific distinction, the Poiseuille Gold Medal, during its regularly held international congress to a scientist who has enriched and advanced our science through his research in the field of biorheology. This prize was first presented in 1966 at Reykjavik, Iceland, during the first congress of our Society, then called the International Society of Hemorheology, to Robin Fåhræus. Since then prizes have been presented to George William Scott Blair at Heidelberg in 1969; in 1972 at Lyon, France to Alfred L. Copley, to Syoten Oka at Rehovot, Israel in 1975, and then in 1978 at La Jolla, USA to Maurice Joly and, finally, 1981 in Tokyo, Japan to Alexander Silberberg. The prizewinner this year, the seventh to join this illustrious company, is Hellmut Hartert, Kaiserslautern, Professor of Medicine, Dr.med., Head of the Department of Internal Medicine, Municipal Hospital, Kaiserslautern, W. Germany.

My dear Hellmut, I congratulate you most warmly on your receiving this prize and wish you further success and happiness.

The International Society of Biorheology thanks the sponsor of this gold medal, the firm Servier Europe, Neuilly sur Seine, France, for their noble gesture with which they as the contributor are honored in turn.

At the ceremony of the presentation of the Poiseuille Award, it was a tradition of the former congresses that the previous awardee would present the medal to the new awardee. On this occasion it is to be performed by Professor Silberberg.

In order to introduce the prizewinner a speech is to be held appreciating both the prizewinners personal and scientific characteristics and praising the results of his research.

I have invited an old friend and long standing comrade of the prizewinner in the field of biorheology and hemorheology, Profes-

sor Copley, to perform this duty. I thank both Professor Silberberg and Professor Copley for being prepared to partake in this ceremony.

Before the presentation ceremony gets under way, I have the honor to greet the Vice Chancellor of the Albert-Ludwigs Universität Freiburg im Breisgau, Professor Peter J. Schollmeyer. The University of Freiburg has taken upon itself the patronage of our Congress. It is our neighbouring university famous both in Baden and further afield, and to which I also have the honor of belonging. I hope that some participants in our Congress will have the opportunity to visit our beautiful university town of Freiburg during the coming days.

My respected colleague Professor Schollmeyer, I thank you for coming to Baden-Baden during the holiday period in order to speak a few words of greeting. Please convey the gratitude of the Council of the International Society of Biorheology to the Chancellor for taking over the patronage of our Congress.