

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BIORHEOLOGY

OPENING REMARKS

Donald Elliott Brooks  
President, Sixth International Congress of Biorheology

It is a great pleasure, on behalf of the local committees in Montreal and Vancouver, to welcome you all to the Sixth International Congress of Biorheology and to the campus of the University of British Columbia. We hope that the next five days will be both pleasant and rewarding and that you will be able to take optimal advantage of the opportunities available to you, both in a scientific and a social sense.

It was not without some trepidation that Harry Goldsmith and I agreed to take on the organization of this meeting in Vancouver, given the very considerable precedent set us in Baden-Baden three years ago. There are, of course, great contrasts between the two cities. Baden-Baden is an old community, deeply rooted in the rich traditions and history of Europe. We were privileged there to spend a week in a center which has played host to visitors for centuries. Vancouver, on the other hand, is a young city even in North American terms, only this year celebrating its first centennial. In Baden-Baden we dined in opulent surroundings in the continental manner. Here, we will eat barbequed salmon outdoors, surrounded by totems, evergreens and artifacts of the original culture of our Pacific coast. We hope you will enjoy the difference and will take up the informality of the Vancouver life style while you are with us.

I think you will find that the program of this Congress also shows some new features. As well as the subjects which have traditionally

occupied much of the program we have included symposia in several areas in which biorheologists have had less experience but which clearly deserve our attention. The transport of fluids in plants, the behaviour and fate of cancer cells in the microcirculation and the first indications of the impact that monoclonal antibody and molecular genetics technology will have on biorheology are all highlighted in symposia and invited papers. We hope that, whether or not you are conversant with these areas, you will take this opportunity to listen to the expert presentations to be made. I suspect we will be hearing much more about all of these topics in Congresses to come.

While I have been stressing the new features in this year's meeting, I am also delighted to point out a significant point of continuity this Congress shares with those of the past, namely the contribution of a logo by the founder of our Society, Al Copley.\* The abstract figure he created and generously donated to our meeting has for me come to represent the dynamism and continuity of life processes, surely a suitable symbol for a biorheology congress. I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank him for his generosity and for the extraordinary ongoing effort he has expended on our science.

I would now like to call on Harry Goldsmith, President of the International Society of Biorheology, to address you on behalf of the Society.

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\*) known as artist under the name L. Alcopley



Congress President Donald E. Brooks  
at Opening Ceremony.  
(Photo: Nancy Hamilton)