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FOURTH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CLINICAL HEMORHEOLOGY

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH GIVEN AT THE FÅHRAEUS AWARD CEREMONY

G.A. Marcel *

Dear Professor Schmid-Schönbein! Dear Holger, allow me before having the pleasure of awarding you the Fåhraeus Medal to say a few words about the man I know.

I must say that it is largely thanks to you that I managed to understand some of the guide-lines of hemorheology.

You are, all at the same time, a professional of internal medicine, a professional of physiology and a professional of the art of teaching. Thanks to that you have managed to write and speak with great clarity where so many others discourage by the complexities of their mathematical approach: so for the pathway from fluidity to tank-treading, thank you!

But you are not only a man of fundamental concepts and a physiologist, you are also a man of therapy.

Your name is linked to hemodilution and for that I certainly believe that you have made one of the greatest contributions of all to hemorheological therapy.

A man of pure science, a man of applied therapy, you are also a man of international relationships. As John Dormandy reminded us, very early in your life, you participated in a student exchange programme with the United States. Later you were a research fellow at Harvard. But you are also a European, and one of the founders of this European Conference on Clinical Hemorheology.

Professor Schmid-Schönbein, you are one of the few capable of comparing all the existing methodologies in our field and what is more of thinking out new ones; probably because you are one of the first, if not the very first, to have published on a method of sieving for the approach of red cell deformability.

Allow me in the name of the International Scientific Board of the European Conference on Clinical Hemorheology, thanking also Mr. L. Alcopley for having drawn the portrait of Robin Fåhraeus, and in memoriam to our great friend and great colleague, Professor Maxime Hanss, Dear Holger, to award you the Fåhraeus Medal.

* 258 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75007 Paris, France.



The above photograph was taken when G.A. Marcel gave his Introductory Speech at the Fåhraeus Awardee Ceremony. Holger Schmid-Schönbein is on the left side.