PREFACE

This special issue of *The Journal of Extra-Corporeal Technology* contains the Proceedings of the 24th International Conference of the American Society of Extra-Corporeal Technology, held April 3–6, 1986, in Reno, Nevada. More than 1,100 perfusionists, manufacturers and guests attended.

The objectives of the Conference were twofold: to advance liaisons among the scientific and technologic disciplines interested in contributing to the further growth of perfusion and its related technologies; and to facilitate personal contact and exchange of information among the persons attending.

A free flow of information at the Conference was facilitated by allowance for a 10-minute discussion following each presentation. These exchanges, we hope, will stimulate further work and refinements in the art of perfusion. It also is hoped that this special issue will serve as a challenge to perfusionists, so that they may explore new areas and refine existing concepts.

These Proceedings, with only minor editorial revision, and not the full referee process, report the 26 papers that were presented, along with the discussions that the papers generated. In most cases, due to the limited time allotted for the oral presentation, the papers provide more detail than could be presented—in capsule form—at the Conference. It is hoped that these longer versions will lead to a more complete understanding of the works discussed.

The hours of intensive work and deliberation, as well as the research work itself that has been condensed in this report, will offer guidance to those people involved in new efforts in the perfusion field and its related technologies.

AmSECT takes this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all those who have participated, directly and indirectly, in the Conference.

William B. Pelley

*Editor*