A.W. Liley Medal 2001 Awarded to Prof. Wolfgang Holzgreve

Prof. Wolfgang Holzgreve was awarded the A.W. Liley Medal on April 18th, 2001, at the opening ceremony of the Annual Congress of the International Society of the Fetus as a Patient.

Wolfgang’s early medical career was spent at Münster, Germany. Although Wolfgang may seem good-natured, his conflagrations with his mentor Prof. Fritz Beller are legendary. Years later Fritz gave Wolfgang the ultimate compliment when he said: ‘I had a lot of fights with Wolfgang, but I must admit many times he was right.’

When the world thinks of Wolfgang Holzgreve, the first impression is that of a scientist. He did a fellowship in Reproductive Genetics with Mickey Golbus in San Francisco, Calif., USA. Subsequently, he pioneered chorion villous sampling, and his work in fetal cells in the maternal circulation and stem cell transplantation is legendary. He has published more than 500 articles in scientific journals, 400 abstracts at scientific meetings, 180 book chapters, and 6 books. He is the coeditor of the textbook *The Unborn Patient* and the Editor-in-Chief of *

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**Fig. 1.** The two A.W. Liley Medal Winners for 2001 Kazuo Maeda (left) and Wolfgang Holzgreve (right) together with Frank Chervenak (left) and Asim Kurjak (right).

**Fig. 2.** The Medal depicts Sir William Liley (1929–1983), one of the Founders of the field of Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy.
Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy which is so important to our Fetus as a Patient Society. The Medical University of Debrecen, Hungary, awarded Wolfgang the Doctor honoris causa degree, and the most prestigious ‘Maternité’ prize was awarded by the German Society for Perinatal Medicine.

Wolfgang assumed the Chairmanship in Basel, Switzerland, in 1995, where he built an internationally respected department. Wolfgang is proud of his adopted country Switzerland, but must truly be considered a citizen of the world. He has received offers from around the globe because of the widespread acclamation of his academic success.

Wolfgang is a great communicator, and the quality of his scientific presentations is matched by his style. His wife Brigitte reports that his love for communication extends to the household, where monologues sometimes occur.

It is important that the personal side of Wolfgang is recognized. He loves good food, but hates poultry because as a child he saw a chicken killed. Skiing is one of the few hobbies Wolfgang has outside his family, and they are delighted that, with his new carving skis, he has committed to them to go skiing more than once a year.

Wolfgang’s greatest treasure is his wife Brigitte whom he met in 1980 and married in 1982. Her beauty and intellect have been a tremendous source of strength for Wolfgang for the past 20 years. Wolfgang’s two children Julia, age 18, and Caroline, age 17, were present with their mother at the ceremony. Julia will follow her parents and enter the medical profession. Caroline is interested in journalism. Brigitte and Wolfgang are most proud of their children. Concerning their intellect, they both take after their parents, and concerning their looks, they fortunately take after their mother.

The Fetus as a Patient Society is delighted to award the A.W. Liley Medal to Wolfgang Holzgreve, Physician, Obstetrician-Gynecologist, Geneticist, Scientist, Communicator, Skier, Husband, Father, Citizen of the World.

Frank A. Chervenak, New York
President, The Fetus as a Patient Society