A.W. Liley Prize 1997 Awarded to Prof. Erich Saling, MD, Berlin

On June 12–15, 1997, the 13th International Congress ‘The Fetus as a Patient’ took place in Basel, Switzerland. It was attended by more than 500 participants from over 30 countries and was organized by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the University of Basel. The 17 sessions covered a wide range of topics from the state of the art in fetal surveillance, the use of computers in perinatology, the diagnosis and therapy of fetal growth retardation, preimplantation and first trimester diagnosis, fetal brain development in utero, the role of nitric oxide, the state of the art of rhesus incompatibility and thrombocytopenia treatment, in utero surgery, fetal stem cell therapy, fetal cells in maternal circulation, problems with multiple pregnancies to ethical aspects of prenatal medicine. After the welcome addresses by the Chairman of the Congress, Wolfgang Holzgreve, the Dean of the Medical Faculty of the more than 500-year-old University of Basel, Dieter Bürgin, the current President of the Swiss Society of Gynecology and Obstetrics, François Beguin, and the Honorary President of the World Federation of Perinatal Medicine, Ermelando Cosmi, the A.W. Liley Prize Lecture was presented to Erich Saling of Berlin. He was honored as the ‘Founding Father of Perinatology’, and received the valuable medal which was crafted by a Croatian artist.

The topic of the lecture which Erich Saling chose and which speech is reproduced here by permission of the author, was ‘Recommendations for a Combined Supervision of the Fetus during Labor by Cardiotocography, Fetal Blood Analysis and Pulse Oximetry’.

Wolfgang Holzgreve, Basel

Fig. 1. Prof. Dr. med. E. Saling receiving the Liley medal from Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h.c. W. Holzgreve, president of the congress ‘The Fetus as a Patient’. On the right is Dr. S. Kupesic, secretary of the international organization of the same name.