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Foreword
'It is my firm conviction that a knowledge of pathophysiology forms the basis for intelligent and successive prevention and management of disease. The source of such knowledge derives principally from laboratory research performed by individuals who are trained in scientific methodology.'

This statement can be found in the preface of Harold F. Schuknecht's monograph on 'pathology of the ear', and in a way it may be regarded as the 'credo' of a man who has dedicated his life both to basic science and to clinical work. A. Flexner, in his fundamental essay on medical education, has emphasized that neither in the nature of the thinking process nor in the scientific technique can a sharp line be drawn between practice and research in medicine. Harold Schuknecht, as a teacher, has always been conscious of this scientific approach to clinical training and this volume of our series shows very clearly the results of this educational principle: The selection of papers presented at the meeting of the HFS Society deal with animal studies, temporal bone pathology, ultrastructural and biochemical studies, clinical investigations and the results of applied clinical research. They reflect in the true sense of the word modern perspectives in otology on the one hand and on the other the scientific harvest of a great scientist, clinician and teacher.

Carl Rudolf Pfaltz

Preface
This volume contains a selection of papers presented at the meeting of the HFS Society in Boston on 21st and 22nd June, 1982. The membership of the HFS Society consists of those individuals who had the privilege of working as research fellows with Prof. H. F. Schuknecht, they share this common bond, and also the desire to know more about the ear in health and disease. The quality of the training and inspiration provided by Prof. Schuknecht is reflected in the fact that 11 of his former fellows are now full professors, and another 9 are department chairmen. The current membership is based on 77 former fellows from 25 different countries. The purpose of their meeting is to bring forward for discussion various research projects in which they have been involved in the preceding 3 years and the present volume is made up of a proportion of their papers presented at the 1982 meeting in Boston, together with a small number of guest papers.

The 1982 meeting was a special one in various ways. It coincided with the 200th Anniversary of the Harvard Medical School with which the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary is affiliated. It also coincided with the 21st Anniversary of the appointment of Dr. Schuknecht as LeComte Professor of Otology and Professor of Laryngology in the Harvard Medical School, and Chief of Otolaryngology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. Although 1982 sees the retirement of him from the Chairmanship of the Department it will be good news to his friends and admirers throughout the world that he will be continuing working as professor.

This very short preface is not intended to be a eulogy to Prof. Schuknecht; suffice it to say that his scientific and clinical contributions in the field of otology are unlikely to be surpassed by anyone else in the 20th century and there will be few wishing to question this statement. This volume is dedicated to Dr. Schuknecht with affection and admiration by his present and former research fellows.

In the production of this volume I acknowledge with gratitude the continual helpfulness of the publishers, Messrs. S. Karger, and of Ms. Denise Greder in particular, as well as my colleagues George Browning, Makoto Igarashi, Collin Karmody, and Alan Kerr who assisted in the task of editing. I would like to thank Dr. David Lim for having negotiated with Messrs. Karger over the publication of these Proceedings. A particular debt of gratitude is due to Ms. Carol Ota who played such an important role in the organization of the meeting at every stage.

Bernard H. Colman