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Preface
It is indeed an honour to have been invited by Prof. Bob Martin and Dr. Thomas Karger to organise and edit the proceedings of the 3rd Schultz-Biegert Symposium. These symposia are dedicated to the memory of Adolph Schultz and Josef Biegert, two former professors and directors of the Institute and Museum of Anthropology at the University of Zürich. The theme of the 3rd symposium was to be primate motherhood. On being given this opportunity I considered carefully the form that a symposium and book on this subject might usefully take. I eventually decided for a comparative biosocial synthesis of our current knowledge of mother-infant relationships in the three natural groups of anthropoid primates, namely, monkeys, apes and humans. To this end I wanted to bring together an international group of scientists acclaimed for their work on primate motherhood and infant development in very diverse subjects, namely, anthropology, medicine, psychology and zoology. My rationale was that such a synthesis would challenge each participant to (re)consider his/her ideas and research in the novel light of the ideas and research of the other participants. I hoped that we could surmount the barriers of scientific discipline and philosophy that have hitherto stifled communication - to mutual detriment - between research scientists working with monkeys and apes, on the one hand, and those working with human primates, on the other hand. To illustrate why I wanted to do this, I will give just one example of where improved communication would be highly desirable. It is surely essential that social scientists and clinicians consider normal and abusive human mothering in the context of human biology, culture and environment if such behaviour is to be fully understood and (in the case of the latter) effectively diagnosed and treated. Equally, then, it is essential that anthropologists, clinicians, psychologists and zoologists work together to increase their mutual comparative understanding of the biosocial similarities and differences that exist between nonhuman and human primate mothers. Improved comparative knowledge and information exchange could then lead to more, and more appropriate, application of data from one primate species to another, with respect to mother-infant relationships, how they are regulated, why they become disharmonious, and how they shape infant development. In accordance with the above ideas I identified the following symposium themes: (1) mother-infant behaviour as a life-history strategy; (2) causes and correlates of mother-infant behaviour, and (3) consequences of maternal well-being and behaviour for infant development. Each theme is represented by original theoretical and empirical contributions on motherhood in human and nonhuman primates in a biosocial context. Taken together, these contributions address primate motherhood as the dependent variable relative to: behavioural development, cognition, ecology, evolution, neurobiology, psychobiology, reproductive biology, social psychology and socioculture. In the introductory chapter of these proceedings I have attempted to set the scene, and to illustrate the gains to be made in terms of scientific understanding from integrating the very diverse sciences which embrace the fascinating challenging subject of primate motherhood. The symposium was ambitious in its aims and, regardless of whether or not it and
these edited proceedings are deemed successful, their very realisation was only made possible by the teamwork between myself, Bob Martin and David Skuse. Bob Martin gave generously of his time and energy at all stages of this project, applying the logistical experience gained during the two previous Schultz-Biegert Symposia. His advice and encouragement were always available and always welcome. David Skuse enabled me to surmount the barriers that I allude to above: as a clinician he welcomed the invitation to collaborate on a symposium dedicated to motherhood in human and nonhuman primates, and his enthusiasm and support were very encouraging, as were his suggestions and ideas influential. All three of us have worked hard on the editing of these proceedings. Finally on a personal level, the opportunity over the past year to work on this project with my co-organisers/editors and co-authors was sometimes quite demanding but always very rewarding, and I am indebted to all those involved.

Christopher R. Pryce

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Acknowledgments

The 3rd Schultz-Biegert Symposium was made possible by the generous financial support provided by the A.H. Schultz Foundation, Zürich, the Dr.-Heinz-Karger-Memorial Foundation, Basel, and a symposium grant from the National Science Foundation, Switzerland. We are extremely grateful for this financial support, which enabled us to bring together in the picturesque surroundings of the Kartause Ittingen, Thurgau, Switzerland, an international group of acclaimed scientific experts. We must thank the participants and authors for their enthusiasm and cooperation which made the symposium so successful and for the high quality of these proceedings, achieved despite the very strict regulations placed on manuscript preparation. Particular thanks are due to those participants from North America for undertaking the transatlantic journey and for contributing so much to the friendly and professional atmosphere which prevailed, from the moment they set foot in Switzerland to the moment it was time for them to return home. The quality of symposium discussions was enhanced greatly by the contributions of the following Zürich colleagues: Dr. Gustl Anzenberger, Mr. Jon Caflisch, Prof. Remo Largo, Dr. Charles Menzel and Prof. Hans-Christoph Steinhausen. For their excellent assistance with organisation we thank Elsbeth Rüegg, Beno Schoch, Patrick Buchmann, Thomas Mutschler, Christoph Soligo and Nina Bahr (for whom participation as speaker and author was clearly not challenge enough!). Finally, we wish to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Thomas Karger and the following members of his staff at Karger Medical and Scientific Publishers for their efficient and friendly collaboration throughout: Thomas Nold, Rosmarie Gisin, Jackie Dürring, and Angela Weber.