



An Exemplar Par Excellence



John W. McLean, OBE FKC, FDS, RCS (Eng), DSc, MDS (Lond), D.Odont (Lund)

I attended the 50th anniversary meeting of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics in early December. It was a particularly good meeting, replete with valuable information about managing dental patients' infections and particularly good reviews of implant prosthodontics and ceramics. The latter two topics continue to dominate meetings in our discipline; they were the emerging focus of interest for most of us in both our clinical and academic pursuits throughout the last two decades of the 20th century. It is therefore very gratifying to note the convergence of excellence in research and clinical papers on the topics, even if an excessive number of meetings around the world often feature an identical, albeit stellar, roster of speakers.

The genesis of today's scientifically tenable clinical status for our current routine and predictable application of both implant and ceramic knowledge can arguably be assigned to Per-Ingvar Brånemark and John McLean, respectively. This journal has already paid

tribute to the former researcher in our July/August 2004 issue. It is now opportune to honor John McLean's seminal work in ceramic dentistry as well. I therefore asked Harold Preiskel, whose career has presided over the developments ushered in by both these extraordinary colleagues, to interview Dr McLean for the *International Journal of Prosthodontics*. They have been friends for many years and have shared many concerns about our discipline's evolving status in oral rehabilitation. I hope that our readers will enjoy this interview with one of dentistry's finest exemplars of professional excellence.

I also want to wish our readers a happy and serene 2005 on behalf of all journal staff, associate editors, and reviewers.

George A. Zarb, BChD, DDS, MS, MS, FRCD(C)
Editor-in-Chief