



## Preface

The articles in this special issue represent the proceedings of a workshop on twin pregnancies held in Paris on April 29 and 30, 1982. Under the capable direction of professors Émile Papiernik and Philippe Lazar and with the considerable assistance of their colleagues Denis Hemon and Roger Bessis, this meeting brought together interested physicians from a number of European countries, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Working sessions were held at the University of Paris, and indeed they were working sessions. Not only were the discussions lively and spirited, but the participants had the opportunity to meet on a social level as well as in the classroom to continue their deliberations.

This symposium, like the prior meetings of the Working Party on Multiple Pregnancy of the International Society for Twin Studies (ISTS), was enlivened by the appearance of many fresh young faces who made first presentations to the society. To all individuals who participated in any fashion, I extend my sincere gratitude.

The academic content of this issue reflects the myriad of problems confronting the obstetrician attempting to care for women with multiple gestations. As in the past, the question of early diagnosis (with or without ultrasound) was an area of great interest. Prenatal growth and development also was discussed in great detail, focusing on precise management by repeated ultrasound examination. The moment of delivery and its resultant problems were not forgotten and the potential and real causes of perinatal deaths also were covered. The papers in this issue represent some of the most up-to-date material on the subject. The interested reader will get a clearer understanding of these problems and the varied approaches used to solve them.

In closing, let me thank Professor MacGillivray, president of the International Society for Twin Studies, Professor Parisi, its secretary general, and Professors Papiernik and Lazar for asking me to assist in the preparation of these articles for their final publication. The Charles A. Fields Medical Foundation, Ltd., of Chicago provided a generous grant for the editorial preparation of manuscripts; and VLI Corporation of Costa Mesa, California, provided a travel grant to the Center for the Study of Multiple Birth. I also should like to thank each and every one of the authors for their courtesy in consistently complying with the numerous requests made.

Last, but hardly least, my heartfelt thanks to my identical twin brother LTC Donald M. Keith (U.S.A. Ret), without whom I would not be who I am. His support and

encouragement of my scientific work have been extraordinary. I am happy that the meeting in Paris marked a personal private reunion for us—alone—only as twins—the first in more than 30 years.

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