

## About the Author

Dr Ales Prokop is a retired Professor of Chemical Engineering (Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA). Throughout his long and varied career he has always worked at the boundary between biology, medicine and engineering and has gained a unique insight into the many disciplines required to discover and develop effective therapies. Having taken a first degree in engineering (MSc, Prague) he gained a doctorate in Microbiology (PhD, Prague) and then a further degree in Biology (DSc, Prague). Throughout his career he has concentrated on biotechnology and bioengineering and has gained considerable expertise in the vital links between those two areas. The systems approach has been a leading theme of his scientific work and he has been able to apply the knowledge gained to the commercial arena. Latterly, he has worked in the area of bioartificial organs, drug delivery and systems biology. He is the author of over 160 publications and reviews in scientific journals and books and he has organized several international meetings and symposia. He has always felt it vitally important to transfer his scientific research, knowledge and results into practice and has collaborated with many companies and scientists in the pharmaceutical arena in both research and teaching.