

## IETS Distinguished Service Award

### 2005 Recipient Anthony E Wrathall



Members of the IETS owe a lot to doctor Wrathall (Tony for his friends) who has been a key person in the society. Over 30 years doctor Wrathall worked with preimplantation embryos, transplacental infections, congenital diseases and seasonal infertility problems, among other topics. In 1984, after giving a paper on disease transmission via ET at the International Congress on Animal Reproduction, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, he was asked to join the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) and to serve on its Import/Export Committee (now re-named Health and Safety Advisory Committee, i.e. HASAC). Later he chaired the HASAC Research Subcommittee and eventually the HASAC itself from 1994 to 2000. He helped to develop sanitary protocols for ET and other reproductive technologies, and was involved in drafting parts of the *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and the European Commission's Directives on ET. Tony also wrote a chapter for the *IETS Manual* on 'Potential of embryo transfer to control transmission of disease'. More recently, and after a long-term research project, his contribution to ET was translated in a significant impact for the industry after he and a group of collaborators demonstrated that bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was not transmitted via ET. This work was eventually published in *The Veterinary Record* in 2002 (Vet Record 150(12): 365-378, 2002). Therefore the choice of doctor Wrathall for the IETS distinguished service award 2005 is extremely appropriate.