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# INTRODUCTION

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by *A. Hari Reddi*

The introduction really should have been written by Professor Marshall Urist. This superb volume assembled, edited and produced by Professor T. Sam Lindholm is a celebration and permanent testament to the far-reaching contributions of Prof. Urist who sadly passed away on the eve of the completion of Prof. Lindholm's book. Because of the passing of Prof. Urist, I was pressed in to service. I am delighted to write this introduction as a tribute to Prof. Urist's monumental contribution.

Professor Marshall Urist was born on June 11, 1914. He received his B.S. from the University of Michigan, M.S. from the University of Chicago, and M.D. from Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine in 1941. He completed his orthopaedic surgery training in the Children's Hospital of Baltimore and the Massachusetts General Hospital. Prof. Urist saw action in the United States Army Medical Corps in England and Germany. Prof. Urist joined the faculty of the newly founded University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) and was associated with UCLA until his death, February 4, 2001.

Professor's Urist's interest in bone physiology began with his life-long association of Professor Franklin McLean at the University of Chicago. The seminal discovery by Prof. Urist of bone induction by demineralized bone matrix paved the way for the long and arduous search, and finally, discovery of BMPs and the recombinant statement of human BMPs. The pre-clinical and clinical investigations have set the stage for potential approval by the Food and Drug Administration of recombinant BMPs for orthopaedic surgery including non-unions and spinal fusions.

Professor Urist was recognised by numerous awards and honours including two Kappa Delta Awards, Claude Bernard Medal, Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, Shands Lecture, and Dallers Phemister Lecture in the University of Chicago. Prof. Urist served as the Editor of *Clinical*

*Orthopaedics and Related Research* and the President of Association of Bone and Joint Surgeons and the Hip Society. In 1993, Prof. Urist received the highest honour bestowed on him by the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh, an Honorary Fellowship of which he was very proud indeed.

A hundred years from now, the scientists will continue to marvel at Prof. Urist's contributions to BMPs. This book by Prof. Sam Lindholm will be the first key step in this important area of BMP research.