

PREFACE

This collection is dedicated to the 6th Baltic Conference of Morphology in Tartu.

The editorial board is particularly happy to extend 75th birthday congratulations to Leiu Heapost PhD, a student of Juhan Aul, long-term Chair of the Anthropology Section of the Estonian Naturalists' Society, Senior Researcher at the Department of Archaeobiology at the Institute of History.

Next year the venerable Old Anatomical Theatre will be renovated. The History Museum and the Faculty of Medicine jointly strive to continue historically and scientifically dignified activities here after the renovation. For this, the Faculty of Medicine will apply its current structural unit – the Medical Collections – which are meant to be not only a tourist attraction but also the site for constant cooperation between the anatomists and anthropologists for their joint research and communication with foreign scientists. During the last five years, three doctoral theses have been defended in Riga as a result of cooperation initiated here.

The contribution of the Centre for Physical Anthropology to cooperation, however, is its internationally recognized collection of research articles – *Papers on Anthropology*. Each year Baltic morphologists and their European colleagues publish their research articles here. The collection is annually indexed in seven European and one American database.

In the future, new centres of theoretical and applied research could be accommodated in the Old Anatomicum. The Institute of Anatomy is ready, if necessary, to give our collection a broader approach so that it could represent the Old Anatomicum as a whole under the new title *Papers of the Old Anatomical Theatre*.

In any case, the editorial board recommends the organizers to follow a very valuable recent trend of European museums – a skilful combination of tourism and research.



Prof. Helje Kaarma