Propositions of This Dissertation

The Coagulation-Inflammation Axis in Atherosclerosis

1. Persistent inflammation within the arterial vessel wall during atherosclerosis progression is sustained through enhanced local cell-specific synthesis and activity of clotting enzymes.  
   This dissertation

2. Changes in coagulation potential, in particular thrombin activity, affect atherosclerotic plaque progression in patients.  
   This dissertation

3. Thrombin is involved in the regulation of processes such as vascular calcification.  
   This dissertation

4. The introduction of new classes of selective anticoagulants will enable us to more precisely investigate how alterations in blood coagulation activity can affect atherosclerosis development in humans.  
   This dissertation

5. Plaque behavior is governed more by composition than by volume.  
   Martin R. Bennett, 2007

6. Eat food, not very much, mostly plants.  
   In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto, Michael Pollan, 2008

7. If a clot does get cleared naturally or with the aid of drugs, the healing process may kick in once again, restoring the cap but also further enlarging the plaque by forming scar tissue. Indeed, considerable evidence suggests that plaques grow in fits and starts, as triggers of inflammation come and go and as clots emerge and dissolve but leave scars.  
   P. Libby, 2008

8. New oral anticoagulants should not be used as first-line agents to prevent thromboembolism in patients with atrial fibrillation.  
   Jack Ansell, 2012

9. Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are more pliable.  
   Mark Twain

10. Dream no small dreams for they have no power to move the hearts of men.  
    Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

11. Ars longa, vita brevis.  
    Hippocrates