IACS elects five outstanding new Fellows

Dr. C. Noel Bairey Merz

C. Noel Bairey Merz, MD, holds the Women’s Guild Endowed Chair in Women’s Health, and is Director of the Women’s Heart Center and the Preventive and Rehabilitative Cardiac Center in the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute where she is a Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Bairey Merz’s research interests include women and heart disease, mental stress and heart disease, the role of exercise and stress management in reversing disease, and the role of nutrition in heart disease. Currently, she is chair of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)-sponsored WISE (Women’s Ischemic Syndrome Evaluation) initiative. Dr. Bairey Merz has received investigational grants from the NIH-National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), NIH-National Center for Alternative and Complementary Medicine (NCCAM), the Pfeiffer Foundation, The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, The Barbra Streisand Foundation, and the Women’s Guild.

A prolific lecturer, Dr. Bairey Merz, is a member of many professional organizations and served on the Board of Trustees of the American College of Cardiology (ACC), as well as the American Heart Association where she is past Chair of the Women in Cardiology Committee. Other professional associations include membership in the Association of University Cardiologists (AUC), the American Association of Physicians (AAP), the National Space Biomedical Research Institute Board of Scientific Counselors, and the National Cholesterol Education Program, Adult Treatment Panel IV. She serves on the advisory boards of lay organizations, including WomenHeart and Sister-to-Sister.

Bairey Merz has an extensive scientific publication record consisting of over 500 scientific publications. Her work has been published in numerous peer-reviewed journals including the New England Journal of Medicine, the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, and the Journal of Women’s Health.

Dr. Bairey Merz has received numerous awards and honors, including the 2012 American College of Cardiology Distinguished Scientist Award, the 2009 American Heart Association Women in Cardiology Mentoring Award, the 2008 McCue Female Cardiologist of the Year Award, the 2005 Red Dress Award for Leadership in Cardiovascular Research in Women, the 2005 Women of the 21st Century award from the Women’s Guild of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and the 2006 Alvin P. Shapiro Award by Psychosomatic Society for excellence in clinical research.
Dr. Bairey Merz has appeared frequently in the media, recognized as an authority on the subject of heart disease and stress. Her television appearances have included Good Morning America, NBC Dateline and 20/20. She has also been interviewed for articles published in The New York Times, Ladies Home Journal, US News & World Report and Working Woman Magazine, to name a few. Dr. Bairey Merz received her bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and her medical degree from Harvard University. She completed her residency at the University of California, San Francisco, where she served as Chief Medical Resident. Dr. Bairey Merz also completed fellowships in clinical cardiology and nuclear cardiology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

We have added from our web site a link to an incredible talk, including the introduction by Barbra Streisand - http://tedxwomen.org/speakers/noel-bairey-merz

Dr. R.C. Sobti

Prof. Ranbir Chander Sobti is a well-known scientist in the area of biotechnology; the Vice Chancellor of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University in Lucknow; former Vice Chancellor of the Panjab University, Chandigarh; and the President of the Indian Science Congress (2013-14).

Professor Sobti began his teaching career in the Department of Zoology, Panjab University in 1976 and went on to become the founder-Chairperson of the Biotechnology Department as a Professor of Cell Biology. Currently he has over 246 publications and 22 books to his credit. His research work, particularly in the areas of cancer and environmental Biology, has more than 1100 citations with an ‘h’ index 18 (Citation gadget) and has seen him head or be a part of the editorial boards of respected national and international journals such as Molecular Cell Biochemistry, Cytology and Genetics, Indian Journal of Human Genetics etc. for policy-driven research in genetic markers and cancer-environment linkages.

Prof Sobti has received 26 awards and 16 fellowships. He has supervised 44 PhDs and is currently working on eight others. He has 25 books published. He is the Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Medical Science, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Indian Society of Cytologists & Geneticists. He has recently been awarded the D.Sc. degree as notified by Himachal Pradesh University. His contribution as a ground-breaking biotechnologist, skilled orator, efficient administrator and futuristic Vice-Chancellor has won him accolades at both the national and the international levels a fact recognized by the Government of India while honoring him with one of the highest civilian award in India the Padma Shree in 2009.

During his Vice chancellorship, Prof. Sobti focused on creating a world class academic infrastructure and a conducive work environment for research while at the same time safeguarding the principle of equity by ensuring that education remained both inclusive and affordable. Affirmative action was taken by establishing Regional Centres and Constituent Colleges in rural areas; creation of special seats for the Single Girl Child, Cancer, AIDS and cardiac patients, not just on campus but also in the 188 affiliated colleges; and free education for orphans and specially-abled students. He also spearheaded the move to adopt 8 peripheral villages of Chandigarh in order to improve their acutely attuned to the importance of environment because of his work in cancer biology.

Dr. Tejal R. Gandhi

Dr. Tejal R. Gandhi is a senior Research Scientist and Academician, with over 20 years of experience in Pharmaceutical Research, particularly in the areas of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disorders.

After obtaining B.Pharm. in 1990, Dr. Gandhi did her research work at the L M College of Pharmacy, the leading Pharmacy Institute of Asia, under the guidance of Prof. Ramesh K. Goyal. During the course of her research work, Dr. Gandhi was selected as a Senior Research Fellow with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, a Government of India-sponsored Research Institute. Her research work at the L M College of Pharmacy and with the CSIR, led her to conduct research on “Effect of newer A.C.E. Inhibitors and Calcium Channel Blockers in cardiovascular complications associated with Diabetes Mellitus and Hypertension”.

Dr. Gandhi also played a lead role in the development of a new molecule for treatment of hyperlipidaemia. As a result of the efforts of this research team, with QSAR techniques, a new molecule LM-1554 was synthesised and pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic and mechanism of action of this new cholesterol-lowering agent was investigated.

Dr. Gandhi joined the Anand Pharmacy College as Assistant Professor in 1999, and was subsequently promoted to the post of Professor & Head of the Institute. The Research Centre focuses on collaborative research, wherein a number of research programs are being conducted in collaboration with a number of leading pharmaceutical companies. Dr. Gandhi oversees an active research team of 20, comprising of Doctoral Fellows, Post-graduate students, Associate & Assistant Professors, and Research Technicians. The research facility places emphasis on finding new synthetic molecules, particularly for use as anti-
Dr. Mulvagh is Professor of Medicine, Mayo College of Medicine, and Consultant in Cardiovascular Diseases and Internal Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. She is a clinical cardiologist, echocardiographer and Director of the Mayo Clinic Women's Heart Clinic. She is an active clinician investigator engaged in imaging research, and an internationally recognized educator and speaker on cardiovascular imaging and women's cardiovascular issues. Dr. Mulvagh has ongoing studies investigating the role of noninvasive testing for the diagnosis of coronary heart disease in women using newer technologies including contrast echocardiography and myocardial perfusion imaging. She is an avid proponent of preventive cardiology and cardiovascular risk management and is the principal investigator for clinical trials involving novel approaches to weight loss for cardiovascular risk reduction, and early detection of chemotherapy-induced cardiomyopathy.

She earned her doctorate in medicine, graduating magna cum laude, from the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada, her hometown. She completed her internship at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, residency in internal medicine at Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA, and fellowship in cardiology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. She has practiced emergency and internal medicine in Ontario, Canada, and was a visiting scientist at NASA Johnson Space Center, and Clinical Instructor for Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, prior to arriving at Mayo Clinic in 1990.

Dr. Mulvagh is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association Council on Clinical Cardiology, the American Society of Echocardiography, and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. She is an elected member of Sigma XI, and has served on the Board of Directors for the American Society of Echocardiography. She is certified in Adult Comprehensive Echocardiography by the National Board of Echocardiography. She has chaired and participated in numerous committees including the American Society of Echocardiography Task Force for Clinical Applications of Ultrasound Contrast, Committee on Live Programs, Research Awards, and Nominating Committees. In addition she has served on NASA Scientific Working Groups and Peer Review sessions. She has over a hundred publications including manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals and invited articles and book chapters addressing investigative frontiers in echocardiography, and women and heart disease. Over the past two decades, she has been a manuscript reviewer for all of the major cardiovascular journals, and has served as abstract reviewer, speaker, moderator and chair for many scientific sessions for the American College of Cardiology, the American Society of Echocardiography, and the American Heart Association. She was the medical chair for the First Inaugural Rochester Go Red For Women American Heart Association Luncheon in 2007, and was the keynote speaker again in 2013. She also served as the keynote speaker for the Women’s Heart Health Initiative program launched at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg, MN in 2013, where she also delivered the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences Harold Buchwald Memorial Lecture in 2011.

Dr. Mulvagh’s outstanding talk in Winnipeg, the 3rd Harold Buchwald Heart Health Lecture, is online: http://www.sbrc.tv/1/watch/180.aspx
Dr. Ferid Murad

Dr. Murad completed his undergraduate work at DePauw University and received his MD and PhD from Case Western Reserve University. He had a medical residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and a fellowship at National Institutes of Health. He was on the faculty at the University of Virginia (1970-1981) as Director of the Clinical Research Center and Director of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology with appointments in Medicine and Pharmacology. He was Chief of Medicine at Palo Alto Veterans Hospital (1981-1988), Associate Chairman of Medicine (1982-1986) and Chairman of Medicine (1986-1988) at Stanford University. He was Vice President of Research and Development at Abbott Laboratories (1988-1993) and Professor at Northwestern University. Dr. Murad worked at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston as Chairman of Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology at Medical School (1997-2005) and as Director (1999-2007) and Director Emeritus (2007-2011) of Institute of Molecular Medicine. From 2011 to present, he has been a University Professor at George Washington University, and Director of the Institute for Cell Signaling.

Dr. Murad has been active in both academic medicine and industry throughout his distinguished career. He has founded or co-founded eight biotechnology companies and has advised many cities and government leaders about technology development. His work has concentrated on the field of cell signaling and signal transduction systems.

In 1998, Dr. Murad received the Nobel Prize in Medicine for his work with nitric oxide, a colorless odorless gas that signals blood vessels to relax and widen, which in turns lowers blood pressure. He continues research which leads to a better understanding of how information is transmitted between the cells. Among his many awards and honors, Dr. Murad received the prestigious Albert and Mary Lasker basic Medical Research Award in 1996, the American Heart Association Ciba award in 1988, and the Baxter Award for Distinguished Research in the Biomedical Sciences from the Association of American Medical Colleges in 2000. He also received the American Society of Clinical Pharmacology Distinguished Research Prize in 2005 and the President’s Scholar Award from the University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center in 2006.

He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a member of the Institute of Medicine, Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of many foreign academies as well as an Honorary or Adjunct Professor at a number of universities. Dr. Murad also serves on the Board of Directors or Scientific Advisory Boards of a number of public and private companies and various foundations and universities. He has received 17 honorary degrees and has published 450 manuscripts and authored or edited 28 books. About 150 trainees have worked with him in his laboratories who are currently academic or pharmaceutical industry leaders around the world.

‘Eugene Braunwald and the Rise of Modern Medicine’:
Book Review blog by Dr. Samuel Goldhaber


Hello. This is Dr. Sam Goldhaber from the Clotblog at theheart.org, speaking to you from the European Society of Cardiology Congress in Amsterdam. Today I am going to review a book that is very meaningful to me personally and professionally. It is a book about my mentor, Dr. Eugene Braunwald, titled Eugene Braunwald and the Rise of Modern Medicine. It is written by my good friend and colleague, Dr. Tom Lee, and the book is personally inscribed by both Dr. Lee and Dr. Braunwald. Eugene Braunwald is a father of modern cardiology, but to me personally he is a mentor, a friend, and a guiding light. He is a skilled clinician, researcher, educator, editor, and teacher.

This book was written in collaboration with Dr. Braunwald. Dr. Lee would go to Dr. Braunwald’s house every few weeks and interview him for several hours over a period of several years to capture different periods of Dr. Braunwald’s career. The story starts in childhood when he and his family just barely were able to escape Hitler in Vienna. They escaped from Austria through Switzerland and then to London, and they eventually moved from England to New York. The story reads as a fascinating personal biography of Dr. Braunwald, how he became interested in clinical medicine and clinical research and how he had a wonderful knack for being in the right place at the right time during his training, at the National Institutes of Health, and then as the Chair of Medicine at the newly formed University of California San Diego Medical School. In 1972, he became Chair of Medicine at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, which became Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

The story is very well written. There are lots of footnotes and documentation along the way. Many of my friends and colleagues are included in the biography, so it is especially meaningful to me. On a personal note, I can say that the year Dr. Braunwald arrived in Boston at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, he also immediately undertook teaching responsibilities in the cardiovascular pathophysiology course at Harvard Medical School where I was a first-year student, and he was assigned to be one of my section leaders along with Ed Sonnenblick. I still remember him going from first-year student to first-year student. We each had microscopes and we were looking under the oil immersion high-powered actin and myosin, and he made sure our slides were in focus and that we understood what we were looking at. He is very devoted to education.

The biography is filled with wonderful anecdotes. I recommend this biography to anyone who is interested in how modern medicine has evolved, and who is interested in the story of what a tremendous positive influence a single individual can make in life. Enjoy the book. This is Dr. Sam Goldhaber, signing off for the Clotblog.
Objectives and Program of 2nd Cardiovascular Forum for Promoting Centres of Excellence and Young Investigators
Winnipeg, Canada (September 4-6, 2014)

The Cardiovascular Forum is being organized to: (i) Encourage the interaction of young investigators with established individuals to improve their training and develop highly qualified manpower in the fields of cardiovascular science, medicine and surgery; (ii) Exchange and blend biomedical and clinical information to emphasize translational knowledge for improving the therapy of heart disease; (iii) Promote research collaborations and establish linkages to carry out multi-disciplinary investigations for finding solutions to diverse cardiovascular problems; (iv) Facilitate interaction with industrial partners for cardiovascular technology development, and (v) Share the scientific and clinical experiences between South and North American investigators.

I. September 4:

5:00 to 7:00 PM: Registration

7:00 to 10:00 PM: Welcome Reception
   1. Welcome Remarks (10 min)
   2. Special Lecture: Developments and Challenges in Cardiovascular Science and Medicine (25 min)

II. September 5:

A. 8:00 to 9:00 AM: Breakfast
American investigators.

B. 9:00 to 10:30 AM
   1. Thematic Symposium: Sudden Cardiac Death and Arrhythmias (4 speakers)
   2. Grant Pierce Young Investigator Award Competition in Cardiovascular Science: Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows (4 speakers)
   3. Advances in Women Heart Health (4 speakers)
   4. Canada-Brazil Postdoctoral Symposium #1 (4 speakers)

C. 10:30 to 11:00 AM: Coffee Break

D. 11:00 to 12:30 PM
   1. Thematic Symposium: Cardiac Fibrosis and Heart Failure (4 speakers)
   2. James Willerson Young Investigator Award Competition in Cardiovascular Medicine: Residents and Postgraduate Fellows (4 speakers)
   3. Gender Difference in Heart Disease (4 speakers)
   4. Canada-Brazil Postdoctoral Symposium #2 (4 speakers)

E. 12:30 to 1:30 PM: Lunch Break

F. 1:30 to 3:00 PM
   1. Frontiers in Cardiovascular Science: miRNA in the Regulation of Cardiovascular Function (4 speakers)
   2. St. Boniface Hospital Symposium: Presentations by Clinical Fellows and Residents (4 speakers)
   3. Cardiovascular Complications in Obesity (4 speakers)
   4. Canada-Brazil Postdoctoral Symposium #3 (4 speakers)

G. 3:00 to 5:00 PM: Wine and Cheese
   1. Biomedical Poster Mentoring
   2. Clinical Poster Mentoring

H. 6:00 to 7:00 PM
   Special Lectures: Diabetic Cardiomyopathy and Metabolic Defects – A Tribute to John McNeill (2 speakers)

I. 7:00 to 10:00 PM
   Informal Dinner and Establishing Linkages

III. September 6:

A. 8:00 to 9:00 AM: Breakfast

B. 9:00 to 10:30 AM
   1. Thematic Symposium: Cardiovascular Complications in Chronic Diabetes (4 speakers)
   2. Eric Olson Young Faculty (within 10 years of appointment) Orations in Cardiovascular Biomedical Science (4 speakers)
   3. Cardiac Remodeling and Heart Failure (4 speakers)
   4. Nutritional Strategies for the Prevention of Heart Disease (4 speakers)

C. 10:30 to 11:00 AM: Coffee Break
D. 11:00 to 12:30 PM
   1. Thematic Symposium: Vascular Remodeling and Hypertension (4 speakers)
   2. Kern Wildenthal Young Faculty (within 10 years of appointment) Orations in Cardiovascular Clinical Medicine and Surgery (4 speakers)
   3. Myocardial Infarction and Acute Ischemic Syndrome (4 speakers)
   4. Cardiac Care and Patient Safety (4 speakers)

E. 12:30 to 1:30 PM: Lunch Break

F. 1:30 to 3:00 PM
   1. Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine: Stem Cells and Cardiac Regeneration (4 speakers)
   2. University of Manitoba Symposium: Presentations by Biomedical Fellows and Students (4 speakers)
   3. Pathogenesis and Therapy of Atherosclerosis (4 speakers)
   4. Lifestyle Strategies for the Prevention of Heart Disease (4 speakers)

G. 3:00 to 5:00 PM: Wine and Cheese
   1. Biomedical Poster Mentoring
   2. Clinical Poster Mentoring

H. 6:00 to 7:00 PM:
   Special Lectures: Cardiovascular Funding: Opportunities and Challenges (2 speakers)

I. 7:00 to 10:00 PM
   Banquet and Award Presentations

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Prof. Ferenc Gallayas Jr. was recognized for Distinguished Service in Cardiovascular Sciences, Medicine and Surgery

Ferenc Gallyas Jr., Ph.D., D.Sc. is a Professor of Biochemistry in the Department of Biochemistry and Medical Chemistry at the University of Pecs Medical School, Pecs, Hungary. After graduating as a chemist M.Sc. in 1985 from the Eotvos Lorand University of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, he worked for the Pharmacology Research Centre of Chemical Factory G. Richter Ltd., Budapest, Hungary as a researcher for three years before joining his present institution. Currently, he is head of the Division of Pathobiocchemistry. During his career, he pursued research at the National Institute of Neuroscience, Tokyo, Japan and the MRC Centre of Synaptic Plasticity, Bristol, UK for 3.5 and 2 years, respectively, as an awardee of Science and Technology Agency Japan, Japan Health Sciences Foundation, Center of Excellence Foundation Japan and Wellcome Trust fellowships.

Previously, he examined regulation of monoaminergic neurotransmitter release, performed neurochemical characterization of immortalized neuronal cell lines, and studied assembly and surface expression of kainate receptors. At his present institution, Dr Gallyas is working on the mechanisms of cell death with special focus on processes associated with the activation of the nuclear enzyme poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) and disruption of the integrity of the mitochondrial membrane systems. He was involved in the characterisation of novel proteins affecting the cell death process such as HSPB11, SOUL, Galectin 13, TIP-47, elucidation of mechanisms of mitochondrial permeability transition and extranuclear effects of PARP activation, and development of novel mitochondria-targeted and PARP inhibitory substances of cytoprotective potentiality. Dr Gallyas substantially contributed to the field of cardiovascular pathomechanisms by elucidating the cardioprotective role of protein kinase C/glycogen synthase kinase-3beta, phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase/Akt and cAMP/protein kinase A/cAMP responsive element binding protein signalling pathways, and by characterising the corrupting effects of oxidative stress, mitochondrial permeability transition and PARP activation.

He co-authored more than 100 scientific publications, and was invited speaker at several prestigious conferences. Dr Gallyas is a member of seven Hungarian and three international scientific societies, serves on the editorial boards of Biochemistry and PLoS One, and reviewer for major journals and scientific foundations.
ISMC has held very successful meetings over the years starting from 1996, and this year’s meeting hopefully could be deemed as a worthy sequel of this tradition. Despite the difficulties such as a change in the presidency of the Organizing Committee and seriously restricted financial situation, the program proceeded to its conclusion without a major hitch. The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences and its Executive Director, Prof. Naranjan S. Dhalla provided invaluable help in securing the prestigious international speakers. Gedeon Richter Ltd, the University of Pecs Medical School and the Hungarian Society of Cardiology gave the vital financial support.

The two-day scientific program was very busy. All together, forty-two 20-25 min lectures were presented in eight sessions, and two refereed poster sessions were provided for young participants to present their findings. In keynote lectures, Professor Agnes Vegh (Director of the Department of Pharmacology, Albert Szent-Gyorgyi Medical University, Szeged, Hungary) talked about the role of gap junctions during ischemia-reperfusion; Professor Bohuslav Ostadal (Centre for Cardiovascular Research, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague, Czech Republic; I A C S President-Elect of) presented developmental aspects of cardiac tolerance to oxygen deprivation; Professor Peter Ferdinady (Director of the Department of Pharmacology, Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary) discussed the modifying effects of metabolic diseases and aging on pre- and postconditioning induced cardioprotection; and Professor Naranjan S. Dhalla emphasized the importance of proteases in mediating ischemia-reperfusion injury.

The other lectures delivered by distinguished scientists from Brazil (1), Canada (8), Czech Republic (2), Netherland (1), Romania (1), Serbia (2), Slovak Republic (4), Turkey (1), the United Kingdom (1), the United States (3) and Hungary (14) covered the major areas of cardiac physiology and pathophysiology including subcellular mechanisms of myocardial ischemia-reperfusion injury, pre- and postconditioning, molecular targeting in left ventricular remodeling, microvascular dysfunction, therapeutic angiogenesis, myocardial regeneration and stem cells, the ageing heart, mitochondrial protection, subcellular mechanisms of myocardial contractility in health and disease, from basics to clinics. It is hard to state that such a short symposium could reflect the new aspects and trends in the field. However, some significant tendencies seemed to emerge such as determining potential benefits of natural molecules (curcumine, resveratrol, quercetin) rather than new pharmacological agents, and studying the effect of co-morbidities (diabetes, inflammation, metabolic diseases) and ontogeny on cardioprotective mechanisms. Other important topics such as the effects of hydrogen-sulfide, miRNA, kinase signaling pathways, transcription factors, oxidative stress, and rejuvenated stem cell therapy were also presented.

It would be a mistake not to mention some of the shortcomings. One was the too tight program that sometimes prevented appropriate discussion. Also, the really high scientific level of the meeting would have deserved a much wider audience. To address this problem and settle the future of the European symposia, the participating members of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences held an ad hoc meeting. They decided that the European Branch of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences WILL encourage organization of joint annual meetings; Balatongyorok, Hungary in 2014; Belgrade, Serbia in 2015; and Izmir, Turkey in 2016. For these meetings, appropriate funds should be secured for sponsoring travel and participation expenses of
young scientists (under 35). Professor Dhalla promised to seek finances for giving prize money for the most successful young scientist participants of the upcoming symposia.

Social events were included to provide relaxation between the busy scientific sessions. A guided tour of Pecs was organized for accompanying persons. A Welcome Reception provided opportunity during the first night to know each other, and friendships were tightened the following evening at the wine tasting in Blum cellar in Villanykovesd, a World Heritage Site.

Just after the opening ceremony, Professor Elizabeth Roth (Honorary Congress President) was honoured with the IACS “Distinguished Leadership Award in Cardiovascular Sciences”.

Professor Rakesh C. Kukreja (Division of Cardiology, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, USA) was awarded the “Norman Alpert Award for Established Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences”.

Professor Andras Varro (President-Elect of the European Branch of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences) received “Naranjan Dhalla Award for Innovative Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences”.

The “Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery” was presented to professor Ferenc Gallyas Jr. (Congress President).

All awards were presented by Professors Naranjan S. Dhalla and Bohuslav Ostadal of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences.

Those who wish to see the photos taken during the symposium can visit [http://aok.pte.hu/index.php?page=galeria&gid=364&nyelv=eng](http://aok.pte.hu/index.php?page=galeria&gid=364&nyelv=eng)

If we may conclude that the ISMC-2013 was a success, it was entirely due the participants. Therefore, the Organizing Committee would like to thank all the participants for their priceless contribution to the success of the meeting. As Congress President, I would like to thank the Organizing Committee for their dedication and hard work. We hope all participants enjoyed science and social life during their stay in Pecs. We are looking forward to welcoming you in 2014.
Rakesh C. Kukreja received 2013 Norman Alpert Award

Dr. Rakesh Kukreja is Professor of Internal Medicine and Eric Lipman Chair of Cardiology at the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Medical Center, Richmond Virginia. He is also the Scientific Director of VCU Pauley Heart Center since 2011. Dr. Kukreja began his career by performing pioneering work on the role of oxygen radicals as mediators of damage to the cardiac sarcoplasmic reticulum and as effectors of ischemia/reperfusion injury. During the last 22 years, the focus of his research has been cardioprotection, particularly with respect to preconditioning. He has performed elegant investigations in deciphering the signaling pathways including the MAP kinases, the transcription factors, heat shock proteins, nitric oxide, and the mitochondrial KATP channels in the development of preconditioning. One of the most intriguing findings of his research is the discovery that phosphodiesterase-5 (PDE5) inhibitors including sildenafil (Viagra) induce powerful cardioprotective effect against ischemia/reperfusion injury, heart failure and doxorubicin-induced cardiomyopathy. Dr. Kukreja and his colleagues have further shown that PDE5 inhibitors enhance anti-cancer effect of doxorubicin (PNAS 2010, 107:18202.) His work on therapeutic effect of PDE5 inhibitors has attracted worldwide attention by the scientific community, TV, radios, WebMD, and other prestigious scientific journals/magazines including Science News, Nature Drug Discovery, LeadDiscovery, Men’s Health, FOX channel, DailyUpdates service alerts and many international newspapers. Dr. Kukreja’s ground breaking studies have generated tremendous interest and stimulated research in discovering the new uses of PDE5 inhibitors for the treatment of hypertrophy, Type 2 Diabetes, Duchenne muscular dystrophy and protection of multiple organs against ischemia/reperfusion injury. Several clinical trials in establishing the therapeutic benefits of PDE5 inhibitors in cardiovascular diseases have been completed or currently ongoing including a Phase I study in cancer patients receiving doxorubicin at VCU Massey Cancer Center on which he serves as co-PI. Dr. Kukreja has published over 170 papers in many top-ranking cardiovascular journals, 2 books, 15 book chapters, 190 abstracts and received two patents from his research discoveries. He has given over 125 invited lectures at national and international meetings including the Gordon Research Conferences, American Heart Association, Experimental Biology and the International Society for Heart Research.

Dr. Kukreja’s work has successfully attracted high level of extramural funding from several sources including the NIH, American Heart Association and pharmaceutical industry. He is an outstanding teacher and mentor to junior faculty members. During the last 20 years, he has supervised 8 Ph.D and 12 Masters’students, 21 postdoctoral fellows, 23 cardiology fellows and a large number of undergraduate, medical and high school students. Majority of his past trainees are enjoying successful careers in academia, industry, government and private practice. Dr. Kukreja is Academic Editor of PLOS One and serving on the editorial board of a dozen peer-reviewed scientific journals including the Circulation Research, Molecular Pharmacology, American Journal of Physiology (Heart & Circulatory Physiology), Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine and Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry. He is elected fellow of the cardiovascular section of the American Physiological Society and International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. He is also premier member of the American Heart Association, member of the American Society of the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, American Physiology Society as well as the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. Dr. Kukreja completed a full 4-year term of regular member of the Cardiovascular B (CVB) and Myocardial Ischemia and Metabolism (MIM) study sections. In addition, he continues to serve as a reviewer on the NIH special emphasis panels and international funding agencies including the Qatar Foundation and Italian Association for Cancer Research.

During his research career, Dr. Kukreja has been recognized with many prestigious awards. He received Outstanding Scientist of Virginia Award in 2010 which was given to him by Bob McDonnell, the current Governor of Virginia. In addition, he received VCU’s Distinguished Scholarship Award, MERIT Award from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Departmental Faculty Awards for Distinguished Research, Best Presentation Award from the Sexual Medicine Society of North America and Young Investigator Travel Award from the ISHR. He has also been co-recipient of ‘Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Prize’ for outstanding research in reproductive endocrinology. This award is one of the highest prizes given to scientists by the Govt. of India. Most recently, he has been selected to receive Ken Bowman Research Award from the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, Winnipeg, Canada for outstanding track record of achievements in cardiovascular sciences.

In Pecs, Dr. Kukreja received the Norman Alpert Award for Established Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences.
IACS Fellow awarded Distinguished Leadership/Achievement Award In Cardiovascular Sciences

Elizabeth Rőth was born in Pécs, Hungary in 1942. Since her graduation from the University of Medicine of Pécs, she has been working at the Department of Experimental Surgery and from 1995 on she has been the head of the Institute. She received her PhD degree in 1982. In the 1980s Rőth's attention turned to the experimental research of myocardial ischemia and reperfusion, but she attempted to trace the role of free radical reactions in the development of cell injury. Rőth and her colleagues were the first who published that the definitively dying heart muscle can be significantly reduced by a synthetic, non toxic antioxidant compound, which had a strong antiarrhythmic effect. In 1994 she became a Doctor of Sciences with her work on „Reperfusion damages of the heart: from basic sciences to clinical practice.”. Their experiments suggested that the laboratory investigation of oxidative stress in human patients be of great importance in the background in different post-reperfusion state. They developed a laboratory protocol by which numerous examinations were conducted on patients in clinical collaboration. From the beginning of 1990 Rőth and her colleagues mainly focused on the development of preconditioning of the heart. Results proved that reactive oxygen radicals may a significant role in endogenous adaptation, showing the effects of oxidative stress in signal transduction. Elizabeth Rőth established numerous collaborations in Hungary and abroad among others with Professor Carlo Guarnier from Bologna, Professor Helmut Heinle from University of Tübingen, Prof Gary Baxter and the Hatter Institute of London, Prof. Lyonel Opie at the Cardiac Research Center Capetown, to study the closed chest model of pharmacological preconditioning. From 2007 she was the chairmen of Hungarian Society of Free Radical Research, and the leader of Experimental Section of Hungarian Society of Cardiology. She has to her credits more than 200 publications in national and international journals. Editorial Board member of Clinical Cardiology /USA/ from 1991 and from 2001 J. of Experimental and Clinical Cardiology as well.

Besides research work teaching young researchers has always been a source of great pleasure for Elizabeth Rőth. Numerous of her PhD and graduate students starting their professional careers in her Institute.

In 1996 Rőth and her colleagues organised the first International Symposium on Myocardial Cytoprotection/ ISMC / in Pécs, which celebrates its fourth meeting in 2003 with collaboration of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences when Dr. Rőth was honoured with Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine, and Surgery. In 2010 at the time of a very successful VI. ISMC Symposium in Pécs, regarding to the decision of the IACS Professor Dhalla awarded Dr Rőth with Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Sciences. Elizabeth Rőth owes special thanks to her colleagues for their conscientious work that made successful and fruitful research work possible.

The Cardiovascular Research Foundation Appoints Jack Lewin, MD as Chief Executive Officer

Distinguished Healthcare Executive Takes the Helm at Pioneering Foundation in Interventional Cardiology

New York, NY – October 15, 2013 – The Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF) today announced the appointment of John (Jack) C. Lewin, MD, as the foundation’s President and Chief Executive Officer.

Dr. Lewin was also appointed to CRF’s Board of Directors. A leading medical and healthcare expert, Dr. Lewin brings a unique blend of leadership and management skills to the organization. He succeeds William A. Himmelsbach, who retired in late 2012. CRF Board Member Colette Y. Gardner has served as President and Co-Chair of the Executive Leadership Council in the interim.

“Since its inception in 1990, CRF has played a major role in the great progress that has been made in interventional cardiology, and in realizing dramatic improvements in the lives of countless patients by establishing the safe use of new technologies and therapies for heart disease,” said Dr. Lewin. “I look forward to working with CRF’s iconic physicians who are so passionate about advancing the field. The combination of preclinical research, clinical trials and excellence in education under one roof gives the foundation a distinctive ability to generate important research questions, test and refine groundbreaking new therapies, and ensure that these therapies are available to patients at the earliest possible opportunity.”

“Jack Lewin’s distinguished background and remarkably innovative tenure as CEO of the American College of Cardiology make him an exceptional individual for this position” said Eric B. Woldenberg, Esq., Chairman of the CRF Board of Directors and a senior partner at Pryor Cashman LLP. “His proven leadership skills, along with his expertise in both the business and clinical aspects of health care will enable him to help us strengthen and expand our role in the development of new technologies and therapies that will benefit people with heart disease worldwide.”

Dr. Lewin served as CEO of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) from 2006 through April 2012. The 41,000 member ACC represents over 90% of U.S. cardiologists, 5,000 cardiovascular nurses and clinicians and over 5,000 international members. Prior to the ACC, Lewin was CEO of the 35,000 member California Medical Association for eight years. Previously, he was Hawaii’s Director of Health from 1986-1994, overseeing 6,500 employees, 12 hospitals, and a billion-dollar budget. Before that, as a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, Lewin was the founder and first Director of the Navajo Nation Department of Health, serving the needs of America’s largest Indian tribe. He currently serves as the voluntary Chairman of the Board for the National Coalition on Health Care. In 2011, he was named as one of Modern Healthcare’s 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare.

Dr. Lewin received his BA in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Irvine, and his MD from the University of Southern California.

About CRF

The Cardiovascular Research Foundation is an independent, academically focused nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the survival and quality of life for people with cardiovascular disease through research and education. Since its inception in 1991, CRF has played a major role in realizing dramatic improvements in the lives of countless numbers of patients by establishing the safe use of new technologies and therapies in interventional cardiovascular medicine. CRF is the sponsor of the Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT) scientific symposium. Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, TCT is the world’s premier educational meeting specializing in interventional cardiovascular medicine. For more information, visit www.crf.org and www.tctconference.com.
Words cannot describe our feelings upon the news that the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences will honor Karl with the “Distinguished Leadership/Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Sciences” for the year 2013 and myself with the “Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery” for the year 2013. At this time, we want to let you know that we both gratefully and humbly accept the awards. We are aware that we were lucky to get the opportunity to spend so many years of our lives serving science and medicine. The recognition of our contributions by the IACS is a hallmark in our scientific lives. The community of the IACS is a very important forum for us. The personal relationships and scientific exchange have been major stimulating factors for the progress of our work.

Professor Ursula Müller-Werdan was born in Southern Germany and was among the top five high school graduates in Bavaria in 1980. After studying medicine in Munich with elective periods in Oxford and Harvard, she got her M.D. degree in 1986 (University of Munich), the doctorate was conferred in 1988 (University of Munich), the habilitation in 1999 (University Halle-Wittenberg). She received specialist recognition in internal medicine, cardiology, intensive care medicine and geriatrics. From 1999 to 2002 she was speaker of the research group on “Myocardial hypertrophy - mechanisms and risks”, which was sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education. From 2003 to 2009 she was speaker of the Working Group “Cardiac diseases of the elderly of the German Society of Cardiology. She is in charge of the clinical training in geriatrics at the University Hospital of Martin-Luther-University in Halle and since 2006 is a member of the board of management of the University Hospital in Halle.

Ursula Müller-Werdan has contributed substantially in the field of mechanisms of septic cardiomyopathy – studying the effects of cytokines and endotoxin on isolated cardiac myocytes – and investigated into mechanisms of cardiac ageing, both in experimental and clinical studies. The research of her working group has been founded by several grants of the Germany National Science Foundation, the German Ministry of Research and Education and the German Heart Foundation. She is principal investigator of the ongoing investigator driven “Anti-CardAgeing Study” (EudraCT-Nr.: 2007-003003-12).

Ursula Müller-Werdan married Karl Werdan in 1994 and their son Carl was born in 2003.

Professor Karl Werdan graduated in medicine at the University of Munich in 1973 and finished his medical doctor’s thesis in the Department of Biochemistry headed by Martin Klingenberg in 1975. He received specialist training in internal medicine, cardiology and medical intensive care at the University of Munich. In 1995, he took the Chair of the Department of Cardiac Intensive Care at Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, since 1999 he is Director of the Department of Medicine III (Cardiology, Angiology, Medical Intensive Care Medicine, Geriatrics) and since 2006 is Managing Director of the Department of Medicine of the University Clinics Halle (Saale) of the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg. In 1999 he was elected as member of the “Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina” (German Academy of Scientists Leopoldina). He was Congress President of the German Society for Internal Intensive Care in 2001 and of the German Society of Cardiology in 2005. Since 2007 he is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Federal Physician Chamber (Responsibility: Cardiology/Intensive Care Medicine). In 2009 he was appointed President of the European Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences for three years. Since 2012 he is Honorary Member of the German Society for Internal Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine.

Karl Werdan has contributed outstanding scientific research in the fields of acute heart failure, heart diseases in the elderly, cardiac gerontology, inflammation in heart failure, cardiogenic shock and cardiovascular dysfunction in sepsis. Recent publications (2012 and 2013) include original papers in the New England Journal of Medicine and The Lancet.
Take the road to a Healthy Heart

Heart health danger highlighted as global survey finds one in four people report not knowing how much they walk each day More than half who do know are walking less than the recommended minimum 30 minutes

Geneva, Switzerland (26 September, 2013) – More than a quarter of people who took part in a new multi-country survey said they did not know how much time they spent briskly walking at a speed faster than normal. As the World Health Organization reports that global levels of physical activity are declining, the survey reveals that between 14 and 37 per cent of adults don’t pay any attention to one of the simplest things most of us can do to protect our heart health – walking.

Dr Kathryn Taubert, Chief Science Officer, WHF, said: “Awareness is the first step to a healthy heart. Paying attention to how much we walk should be as simple as watching what we eat. On World Heart Day, we are urging people to take action to protect their hearts. By reaching the recommended guideline of minimum 30 minutes of moderate exercise, which includes brisk walking at least five days a week, many premature deaths can be prevented.”

The new multi-national survey conducted in Brazil, China, India, Spain, UK and USA by the World Heart Federation reveals that:

- Around one in three adults in the US and UK are not aware of how much they walk each day compared to only one in six people in India
- Overall, in the six countries that were surveyed, 55 per cent of people who reported times, do less than 30 minutes of brisk walking on a typical day
- People in the US and UK reported that they do less brisk walking than those in developing nations – two thirds of respondents in the US and UK who reported their walking times do less than 30 minutes of brisk walking, on a typical day, whereas less than half of adults in Brazil and India do the same.

In an age of smartphones and fitness tracking devices, it has never been easier to keep track of personal fitness. Studies have shown that people who wear pedometers increase their physical activity by almost 27 per cent.

In celebration of this year’s World Heart Day, the World Heart Federation and Bupa, a leading international healthcare group, launched a new global challenge and free walking app, to encourage people to get walking and keep walking. Entitled Ground Miles, the challenge will help to motivate people to take care of their heart health, while the app provides them with a tool to count the distance that they walk and reach their physical activity goals.

Johanna Ralston, CEO, WHF said: “We want to get people around the world walking, to reduce their risk of developing cardiovascular disease, including heart disease and stroke. Our goal is to encourage people to collectively walk 5 million miles (8 million kilometres) by the end of this year.”

Awareness around CVD risk factors such as physical inactivity, unhealthy eating, overweight/obesity and tobacco use is the first stage towards preventing the risk of heart disease and stroke. Regular moderate exercise – such as walking, cycling, or participating in sports – has many health benefits for the heart. Walking in particular is one of the least expensive and most broadly accessible forms of physical activity in the world. By reaching the recommended goal of minimum 30 minutes a day, five times a week of moderate exercise, the World Heart Federation says people can:

FINAL
- Increase life expectancy – even 15 minutes a day of moderate exercise (which includes brisk walking) can have significant health benefits, adding up to three years to life expectancy
- Significantly reduce the risk of CVD – studies have shown reductions as high as 11 per cent. Burn more fat than jogging – running an hour per day reduces the risk of heart disease by nearly five per cent; however people who expended the same amount of energy walking per day can reduce the risk of heart disease by more than nine per cent.
"Your feet can carry your heart very far in life", summarised Dr Srinath Reddy, President, World Heart Federation.

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About the survey
The survey was conducted online by YouGov on behalf of the World Heart Federation in Brazil, China, India, Spain, UK and USA, with a total sample size of 7,367 adults aged 18+ in August 2013, weighted to be nationally representative of each market. The survey asked respondents two questions: 1) On a typical day, approximately how much time would you estimate you spend casually walking at a slow/normal pace? And 2) On a typical day, approximately how much time would you estimate you spend briskly walking at a speed faster than normal? The calculations have been made against respondents’ answers to the brisk walking question.

About World Heart Day
World Heart Day was created by the World Heart Federation in 2000 to inform people around the globe that heart disease and stroke are the world’s leading cause of death, claiming 17.3 million lives each year. On 29 September each year, together with its members, the World Heart Federation aims to drive action to educate people that by controlling risk factors such as tobacco use, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, at least 80 per cent of premature deaths from heart disease and stroke could be avoided. World Heart Day unites people from all countries and backgrounds in the fight against the CVD burden, and inspires and drives international action to encourage heart-healthy living across the world. The theme for this year’s World Heart Day, ‘Take the road to a healthy heart,’ will focus on the ‘life-course approach’ to the prevention and control of CVD amongst all age groups, with a focus on women and children, as healthy children lead to healthy adults and healthy adults lead to healthy families and communities. The main aim is to educate people that the threat of heart disease can begin at any age, and that people’s risk increases with exposure to risk factors such as unhealthy diet or exposure to tobacco smoke. Unless people are aware and action is taken to enable heart-healthy living, CVD will remain the single leading cause of death worldwide and, by 2030, will be responsible for 23.6 million deaths each year. More information about World Heart Day is available at www.worldheartday.org; www.facebook.com/worldheartday and #worldheartday World Heart Day is financially supported by unrestricted educational grants from: AstraZeneca, Bayer HealthCare, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Bupa, Pfizer, Schiller.

About the World Heart Federation
The World Heart Federation is dedicated to leading the global fight against heart disease and stroke, with a focus on low- and middle-income countries, via a united community of more than 200 member organizations that brings together the strength of cardiac societies and heart foundations from more than 100 countries. It aligns its efforts around the WHO-related target of a 25 per cent reduction in premature CVD mortality by 2025. With its members, the World Heart Federation works to build global commitment to addressing cardiovascular health at the policy level, generates and exchanges ideas, shares best practice, advances scientific knowledge and promotes knowledge transfer to tackle CVD— the world’s number one killer. Through our collective efforts we can help people all over the world to lead longer and better heart-healthy lives. For more information, please visit: www.worldheart.org; www.facebook.com/worldheartfederation and will be used to support programmes that protect thousands of children in Africa and South Asia from heart failure and early death, as a result of Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD).

About Bupa
Bupa’s purpose is longer, healthier, happier lives. A leading international healthcare group, Bupa serves more than 14 million customers in more than 190 countries. It offers personal and company-financed health insurance and medical subscription products, runs hospitals, provides workplace health services, home healthcare, health assessments and chronic disease management services. Bupa is also a major international provider of nursing and residential care for elderly people. With no shareholders, the company invests its profits to provide more and better healthcare and fulfill their purpose. Bupa employs more than 62,000 people, principally in the UK, Australia, Spain, Poland, New Zealand and the USA, as well as Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, India, Thailand, China and across Latin America.

For more information, visit: www.bupa.com.

References
1 Harvard School of Public Health, Physical Activity, accessed; http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/obesity-preventionsource/obesity-causes/physical-activity-and-obesity/
2 Word Heart Federation [data on file]
4 C3 Collaborating for Health, The benefits of regular walking for health, well‐being and the environment, 2012

About the Ground Miles Challenge
The World Heart Federation and Bupa have formed a global partnership to get the world walking, to help reduce their risk of cardiovascular disease (which includes heart disease and stroke). On World Heart Day they are launching a global walking challenge called Ground Miles. The global target is to walk 5 million miles (8 million kilometres). The World Heart Federation and Bupa are urging people to download, for free, a new Ground Miles app to spur them on and measure the distance they walk. People who download the app will have the chance to win prizes along the way. To download the app, search for ‘Ground Miles’ in your Apple or Android app store or for more information, please visit: www.worldheart.org/groundmiles or www.bupa.com/heart

The World Heart Federation’s 200+ member organizations and Bupa’s 62,000 employees, worldwide, will walk and encourage their friends, families, colleagues and communities to help reach this target. When the 5 million mile mark is reached, Bupa will provide funding to the World Heart Federation that will be used to support programmes that protect thousands of children in Africa and South Asia from heart failure and early death, as a result of Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD).
IACS Fellows Grant Pierce and Robert Roberts Elected as Fellows of Royal Society of Canada

Dr. Grant N. Pierce

After completing postdoctoral training at UCLA (1983-86), Dr. Pierce obtained his first faculty appointment in the Dept. of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada. Dr. Pierce has published over 200 research manuscripts and written or edited 8 textbooks on a variety of topics concerning metabolism, nutrition and cardiovascular health. His research papers have been cited well over 5000 times. Dr. Pierce has served on the Editorial Boards of some of the best cardiovascular journals in the world and as Assistant Editor of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry for more than 20 years. He is currently Co-Editor of the Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology. He has been invited to give over 150 lectures at meetings and Universities throughout the world. He has helped to organize more than 50 meetings all over the globe. In collaboration with several Faculties from the University of Manitoba, he initiated the Canadian Centre for Agri-food Research in Health and Medicine (CCARM) at St. Boniface Hospital to investigate the health-related benefits of nutraceuticals and functional foods. Dr. Pierce is currently the Executive Director of Research at St. Boniface Hospital. He has received many awards (including those from the American Heart Association, the International Society for Heart Research, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba, the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, the University of Manitoba, and many others) in recognition of research excellence. He serves as a member of the Board of Directors of several health-related institutions. He is the past Chair of the Scientific Review Executive Committee for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. He is a fellow of 8 different medical organizations including the Royal Society of Canada. In 2012 Dr. Pierce received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of contributions to Manitoba and Canada. His latest research findings using flaxseed as a dietary intervention in patients with peripheral arterial disease have shown impressive blood pressure lowering effects and will be published later this year in Hypertension.

Dr. Robert Roberts

Robert Roberts is the President and CEO of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and founding Director of The Ruddy Canadian Cardiovascular Genetics Centre. He received his M.D. from Dalhousie University and completed his residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Cardiology at the University of Toronto. Funded by a Canadian Heart Foundation Scholarship, he pursued research in heart disease at the University of California. He was recruited to Washington University in St. Louis as Director of the Coronary Care Unit and rose to the rank of Associate Professor of Medicine. In 1982 he accepted the position of Chief of Cardiology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. As a cardiologist, educator and scientist, he developed the MCBK Test which has been used to diagnose heart attacks for the past three decades. Dr. Roberts’ research led him to molecular biology and genetics, during which time he discovered many genes responsible for heart disease. Dr. Roberts is generally regarded as one of the founders of molecular cardiology.

Dr. Roberts has had a distinguished and prolific career as a Cardiologist, Educator and Scientist having published over 870 scientific articles and received many awards including the 2012 Distinguished Fellowship Award from the International Academy of Cardiology; Canadian Cardiovascular Society 2012 Research Achievement Award; McLaughlin Medal from the Royal Society of Canada and the Albrecht Fleckenstein Memorial Award from the International Academy of Cardiology in 2008; Citation for Highly Cited Researcher from ISI Thomson Scientific in 2002; the Distinguished Scientist Award from the American College of Cardiology in 1998; and recently was honoured by his alma mater, Dalhousie University, with the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (2012 October).

Dr. Roberts currently serves on several international committees: Medical Advisory Board, Gairdner Foundation (2009-2014); Impact Review Panel 2013 UBC Margolese National Brain and Heart Disorders Prizes; Scientific Advisory Committee Member, Fondation Leducq, Paris, France (2009-2014); Board of Directors, The Fields Institute, Research in Mathematical Science (2010-2015); Basic Science Advisory Task Force, American College of Cardiology 2013; Inter Society Task Force for Genetics, American College of Cardiology 2013; Board of Directors, Ontario Genomics Institute, Toronto, Ontario (2011-2015); Governing Board, International Society of Cardiovascular Translational Research, ACC (2010-2016).
Dr. Roberts has also served many leadership roles in research, including: Chair, CANNectin-Pharmacogenomics Technology Working Group (2008-present); Chairman, Data & Safety Monitoring Board of the NHLBI-sponsored, Rule-Out Myocardial Infarction Using Computer Assisted Tomography II (ROMICAT II) Trial, Washington, DC (2008-2012); Chairman, Awards Committee for Grant Reviews of the American College of Cardiology (2003-2006); Chairman of the Research Awards Committee American College of Cardiology (2002-2006); Chairman, Review Committee, ACC/Merck Fellowship Awards Program (2000-2006); Co-Chairman of the NIH Symposium on Gene Therapy and Safety, American College of Cardiology; Chairman, Joint ACC-ESC-AHA Committee Taskforce to Develop Molecular Genetics Curriculum (2000-2003); Vice-President, National American Heart Association (2001-2002); Board of Directors, National American Heart Association (1999-2002); Chair, ACC Task Force 7: Training in Cardiovascular Research (2002); Chairman, RPEC, National American Heart Association (1999-2001); Chairman, AHA Research Program and Evaluation Committee (1999-2001); Board of Trustees Member, American College of Cardiology (1996-2001); Chair, Training in Cardiovascular Research, American College of Cardiology (2000); and Board of Directors, American Heart Association (1999).

Dr. Roberts is the Editor of Current Opinion in Cardiology and a member of the Editorial Board of several prestigious cardiology journals. He has lectured throughout the world including several notable plenary addresses, including: The Royal Canadian Institute for Advancement of Science, co-sponsored by the Gairdner Foundation, ‘Medicine: A Glimpse of the Future’, Toronto (2013); Canadian Cardiovascular Congress, 2012 CCS Research Achievement Award Presentation, Toronto, (2012); Plenary Speaker and Plenary Session Chair, International Academy of Cardiology, 17th World Congress on Heart Disease, Annual Scientific Sessions Toronto 2012, “A Glimpse To The Future – Genetics of Heart Disease”; Plenary Speaker, AACC Annual Meeting 2012 and Clinical Lab Expo, “9p21 DNA Variants Associated with Coronary Artery Disease”, American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Los Angeles, California; Keynote Speaker, ACVIM Forum 2012, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, “Therapy for HCM in Genetic Animal Models” New Orleans, Louisiana; Endowed lectureship, Visiting Professor, Washington University 2011 “Genes and the Comprehensive Prevention of Heart Disease”, St Louis, Missouri; Endowed lectureship, Anandi L Sharma Visiting Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, New York, NY (2011); Endowed lectureship, Anna and Harry Borun Visiting Professor, California (2011); Opening Plenary Speaker, Asian Pacific Society of Cardiology (1995); Japanese College of Cardiology (1995); Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (1995); Japanese Circulation Society (1997); Simon Dack Presidential Address at the ACC Scientific Sessions (2002) and State-of-the-Art Lecture, Canadian Cardiovascular Society (2005).

Dr. Alan Menkis presented a plaque to Dr. Yusuf in recognition of Distinguished Leadership/Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Sciences.
6th International Conference on Recent Advances in Cardiovascular Sciences (RACS)
31st January & 1st February 2014

Organised by:
International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS) India
at
Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research (DIPSAR)
New Delhi, India

International Speakers

- Ferid Murad
  Nobel Laureate, George Washington University, USA

- Bohuslav Ostadal
  Institute of Physiology, Academy of Sciences of Czech Republic

- Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla
  Distinguished Professor of Physiology, St. Boniface General Hospital, Winnipeg

- Dr. Grant N. Pierce
  Executive Director of Research, St. Boniface General Hospital, Winnipeg

- Roberto Bolli
  Chief, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Louisville, USA

- Dr. Pawan K. Singal
  Director, Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences St. Boniface General Hospital, Winnipeg

- Martin Morad
  Professor, Medical University of South Carolina, USA

- Dr. Robert Roberts
  President and CEO, University of Ottawa Heart Institute, Canada

- Dr. Gary D. Lopaschuk
  Professor and Scientific Director, Mazanowski Alberta Heart Institute

- Deepak Srivastava
  Professor, University of California, San Francisco, USA

Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research
(University of Delhi)
A Premier Institute in the field of Pharmaceutical Education & Research

Celebrating Golden Jubilee Year
INVITATION

Dear Friends,

We have great pleasure in informing you that the Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research, New Delhi, is organizing an International Conference on “Recent Advances in Cardiovascular Sciences” from 31st January-1st February, 2014, at the Auditorium of the Institute. The emphasis of the conference will be on topics related to the cardiovascular disorders, and therapeutic agents for the treatment of heart diseases. More than 300 scientists/professionals from the academia, industry and regulatory bodies from all over the country, as well as from abroad, will participate in this meeting and deliberate upon the recent developments in this exciting area of research with particular reference to national health care needs. The scientific programme will include lectures on contemporary topics in this emerging area of biomedical research with specific reference to cardiac diseases and allied sciences. A major thrust area of the conference will be Academia-Industry interactions and its impact on New Drug Discovery and Development in relation to heart diseases.

On behalf of the organizing committee of the conference, it is our proud privilege to cordially invite you to participate in the meeting and grace the occasion by your presence.

Your interest in such academic and scientific exercises has always been forthcoming, and we eagerly look forward to your co-operation and support.

Organizing Secretary
Professor D.P. Pathak
Director, DIPSAR

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• Ranjit Roy Chaudhary
• V.M. Katoch
• R.C. Sobti
• N.K. Ganguly
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• Upendra Kaul
• Balram Airan
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• Sajal Chakraborti
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• Monica Gupta
• Sushma Srivastava

Chairman Conference
Professor S.K. Gupta
President-IACS, India Section
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS

- Developmental Aspects of Cardiac Function
- Stem Cell Therapy
- Control of Cardiac Gene Expression in the Heart
- Metabolic Syndrome and Heart Disease
- Molecular Mechanisms of Cardiac Dysfunction
- Pathogenesis of Myocarditis
- Genetic Biomarker of Heart Disease
- Molecular Defects in Diabetic Cardiomyopathy

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

- Drug Discovery
- Pharmacovigilance and Drug Safety for better healthcare
- Drug Discovery-Pharmaceutical Sciences
- ICH-GCP Guidelines
- Clinical Research & Regulations
- Bioethics
- Biostatistics

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Cardiologists
- Cardiovascular Scientists
- Medical Students
- Pharmacy Students
- Academia
- Post-Graduate Students
- Government and Public Policy: Lawmakers
- Clinical Research and Development
- Drug Development and Discovery
- Regulatory Affairs

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

- Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research
- International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences
- Indian Council of Medical Research
- Society for Promotion of Health & Environmental Sciences
- International Society for Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research
- Indian Pharmacological Society, Delhi Branch
Registration Fee Details

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Call for Podium and Poster Presentations
Posters and podium presentations are invited from related fields

Oration & Student Awards
Poster presentations are invited from Young Scientists/Students for the award of best poster award.

Deadline for abstract submission: 30th December 2013
- Abstract should not exceed more than 250 words
- Name of the Presenting Author should be underlined
- Body of the abstract should include introduction, materials & methods, results and summary.
- Preference for oral or poster presentation should be mentioned.
- Upload your abstract on racs2013dipsar@live.com

IACS-India Section Life Membership
You can also become life member of IACS-India Section by paying registration fee of Rs. 3000/- before 30th December, 2013.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
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Email – racs2013dipsar@live.com
Payments may be made by DD in favour of “RACS DIPSAR” payable at Delhi.