Promoting Cardiovascular Education, Research and Prevention

CV Network
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In this issue

02  New President of IACS-India
03  IACS-India Section is on the March
04  Council of IACS-India Section
06  D.K. Agrawal Awards Competition
07  Call for Nominations for IACS Medal of Merit
07  Nomination for IACS Fellowship
08  In Memoriam: Dr. H.E. Cingolani
10  Official Journals of IACS
11  In Memoriam: Prof. Frank Kolbel
12  Preliminary Program: 3rd IACS-European Section Meeting
17  R. Kukreja Oration Award
18  Prof. Ravens Selected as Honorary Lecturer
19  26th Scientific Forum in Brazil
20  Announcement of Awards at IACS-North American Section
20  Past Young Investigator Award: IACS-North American Section
21  Preliminary Program: IACS North American Meeting
28  9th International Conference in India
29  IV Argentina – Brazil Meeting
Chandrasekharan Cheranellore Kartha (born 1951), is presently Honorary Distinguished Professor of Disease Biology and Molecular Medicine at Rajiv Gandhi Center for Biotechnology, an autonomous institute under the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. He was earlier Senior Professor and founder Head of the Division of Cellular and Molecular Cardiology at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, an Institute of National Importance under Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. He also served as the Dean of academic affairs of the Institute in the years 2000-2003.

Kartha has an outstanding record as a cardiovascular pathologist and as a serious investigator in cardiovascular disease biology. His contributions to the understanding of molecular basis of diseases have received acclaim among physicians and scientists alike over the years. A notable feature of his research is the distinct emphasis on questions directly related to mechanisms of human cardiovascular diseases. He has employed tools of cell biology, biochemistry, physiology, pharmacology, molecular biology, experimental cardiology and epidemiology for his pursuits. He has thus been able to provide a link between basic sciences and clinical cardiology to the young investigators he has trained.

Kartha graduated from Trivandrum Medical College in the year 1974 and took his MD degree in Pathology from All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi in 1979. He joined Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute in its formative years as Lecturer in Pathology and rose to the position of Additional Professor of Pathology in 1988. He was responsible for organizing and leading the cardiac pathology services and an electron microscopy laboratory in the Institute. He was also associated with the early stages of development of disposable blood bags, dental materials and a large diameter vascular graft. In 1993, he was appointed as the Professor and head of the then newly created Division of Cellular and Molecular Cardiology, an interdisciplinary group for cardiovascular research. He is credited with organizing the first Molecular Cardiology division in India.

During the early part of his career, his focus was to delineate the cause of endomyocardial fibrosis, a tropical cardiomyopathy. His studies disengaged the aetiopathogenesis of the disease from a confusing network of hypotheses and placed it in the context of a geochemical cause with the primary tissue response being interstitial in nature. Kartha has evaluated through experimental and epidemiological studies, the geochemical hypothesis proposed by MS.Valiathan and Kartha.

His studies on endomyocardial fibrosis spurred his interest in the biology of cardiac endothelium and he has made original contributions to the current understanding of the role of endocardial endothelium in the regulation of cardiac function and in cardiac remodeling secondary to cardiac failure.

In 2009, Kartha was invited by Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology as Professor of Eminence to initiate translational cardiovascular biology and establish a division of cardiovascular disease biology at the Center. He has established a most comprehensive interdisciplinary laboratory for cardiovascular research at Rajiv Gandhi Center, where he also initiated research on a broad range of clinically relevant themes which include, cardiac stem cell biology, vascular disease in type 2 diabetes, hereditary basis for varicose veins, molecular pathogenesis of tetralogy of Fallot and endothelial remodeling in cardiac failure. These efforts have led to identification of cyclophilin A as a biomarker for vascular disease in type 2 diabetes and the discovery that Forkhead box C2 promoter variant c.-512C.T is associated with increased susceptibility to varicose veins.

He is an elected Fellow of Royal College of Physicians, London, International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (Canada), National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), Indian Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Sciences (India) and Indian College of Pathology. He has served in the Council of Indian Academy of Sciences, editorial boards of several peer reviewed international journals and on several national and institutional committees. He is a recipient of Distinguished Leadership Award of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences.

Kartha has published 116 articles in peer-reviewed journals, authored a book, edited 4 books and focussed editions of 2 journals, authored 15 reviews and contributed chapters in 14 books. He has also authored several popular science articles for vernacular magazines and a chapter on Medical Technology for an illustrated Encyclopedia on Technology published by Kerala State Institute of Children’s Literature. Professor Kartha is married to Dr. Mira Mohanty, a pathologist who retired as Senior Scientist and Associate Head of Biomedical Technology Wing of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology.
IACS-India Section is on the March

C.C. Kartha
President, IACS India Section

I am delighted to accept my appointment as President of the India Section of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS).

The India Section was initiated in 2004 on the proposal of Prof. Naranjan Dhalla, founder of IACS. Professor NK. Ganguly, former Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research and a renowned microbiologist and Professor of Experimental Medicine & Biotechnology was its first President. The first Council had as members, Professor SK. Gupta, former Head of the Department of Pharmacology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, eminent cardiologist Professor KK. Talwar, former Director of Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh and distinguished scientist Professor Ramesh Goyal, former Vice Chancellor of MS University, Baroda. The India Section had its annual meetings regularly together with the annual meetings of India Section of International Society for Heart Research until two years ago. Annual symposia on “Recent Advances in Cardiovascular Sciences” at New Delhi were for the past six years, a regular feature under the leadership of Professor Gupta who took on the mantle of the President from Prof. Ganguly and Secretary General Professor SS. Agarwal. These meetings were a great attraction to young cardiovascular scientists as in these meetings they had the opportunity to interact with eminent speakers from different parts of the world. The India section has instituted three orations to recognize eminent Indian scientists and NS Dhalla awards for young investigators.

We feel that the India Section has proven its viability and has matured sufficiently to attempt initiating new activities for the growth of the practice of cardiovascular research in India. I express my sincere thanks to all the past office bearers for everything they have done for the sustenance and growth of the India section. I realize the responsibility linked to my position as President of this society, in creating an identity and also gaining for the India section respectability among cardiologists, scientists as well as the public. I promise to do my best for the growth of the Academy.

The Executive Council of the India Section has been reconstituted this year. The new Council has representations from National Institutes, Medical Colleges and Universities of different regions/States of India and various disciplines related to cardiovascular sciences. There is also adequate representation of women (30%) as well as young scientists in the Council (Table 1). The Society is now registered as an independent body under The Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act, 1955. A new website has also been launched (www.cardiovascularsciences.org).

Any Academy as all of you are aware is a society of distinguished scholars and the primary objective of an Academy devoted to cardiovascular sciences would be to bring to its fold, all types of practitioners of cardiovascular science - cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons, pathologists, pharmacologists, physiologists, public health experts and nutritionists. The first goal of the new Council would thus be to expand the membership of the Indian section of the Academy by enlisting investigators form different disciplines and from different parts of India.

India Section’s’s motto is identical to what Howard Morgan, the founding President of IACS has set: “The challenge for the Academy and its members is to adopt a mind-set, which continuously raises the question of how new and existing knowledge, can be translated into prevention, improved diagnosis and therapy of cardiovascular disease. This approach offers the hope of a continued reduction in morbidity and mortality due to cardiovascular diseases.”

The challenges in the Indian context are diverse and unique. They include the (i) issue of rising cardiovascular diseases, (ii) deficiency of appropriately trained personnel who understands physiological, pharmacological and pathological aspects of cardiovascular diseases and are also skilled in modern biological techniques and tools for innovative interdisciplinary research and (iii) inadequate community level initiatives for increasing awareness about risk factors for cardiovascular diseases and to extend preventive strategies. Collaborative efforts among multiple stakeholders are requisite to respond to these shortfalls. The Indian section wishes to focus on these problems and find ways to translate new knowledge for discovering preventive and treatment strategies for accessible and affordable cardiac care in the Indian environment.

Several studies have concluded that “to be an Indian, is itself a risk for premature coronary artery disease” because of both genetic predisposition and faulty lifestyle. The rate of coronary artery disease in young Indians is almost twice as high compared to their western counterparts. Making the younger generation (as young as school children) aware of various cardiovascular diseases, their risk factors and personal preventive strategies would be a major focus of our activities.
There is an urgency to extend initiatives for cardiovascular health protection, such as increasing awareness for improved lifestyle, nutritious and healthy food, promote health wellness programs, and promotion of meditation and Yoga to full effect to combat heart diseases. We intend to provide public health education in a variety of ways. We have designed a newsletter “Matters of the Heart” for public distribution. We hope we would be able to produce the newsletter in different Indian languages. The first issue is scheduled to be launched during the forthcoming annual meeting. We have also a plan to produce an educational film aimed at youngsters for increasing awareness about cardiovascular diseases and their risk factors.

The Government of India has recently launched a National Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) program which includes cardiovascular diseases and focuses on prevention and awareness, and innovations in medical and mobile technology for early detection and monitoring of NCDs. Our Academy would strive to the successful implementation of this program by collaborating with various stakeholder groups including Government agencies, health care providers as well as pharmaceutical and medical technology companies.

We are also discussing about measures to strengthen and improve training infrastructure for interdisciplinary cardiovascular research and also promote India specific research programs. We expect to establish fellowships for PhD students in universities and research laboratories for short term visits to large cardiac care centers to raise awareness about human diseases and their management, and for clinical trainees for visits to premier cardiovascular research institutions for exposure to laboratory investigations. Hopefully such a program would help in unifying the thinking and philosophy of experimental and clinical cardiologists and encourage close cooperation between them. All being well, this venture can be expanded linking the Indian institutions with centers associated with other sections of IACS, facilitating collaborative research in domains of mutual interest.

In addition to the annual meetings, the India section proposes to organize periodic workshops for young investigators to enhance skills in cardiovascular research tools. We also expect to institute an Academy Chair program under which erudite scholars from both India and abroad can conduct lecture tours to institutions in different regions of India and inspire young investigators.

As of today we have no document on the science and technology efforts in cardiovascular sciences that have been made since India became independent and the scientific achievements in cardiovascular research. The Academy wishes to evaluate the overall scientific and technological achievements of cardiovascular scientists in India, and attitude of clinicians, funding agencies and the public towards these efforts. This analysis could pave way for improving the focus and quality of cardiovascular research in the country.

I have been immensely benefited by my association with IACS during the past 14 years. I would hence strive for the growth of the Indian Section and help young investigators in their pursuits and success in their career. I pray for guidance and support from all members of the India Section as well as distinguished Fellows of IACS.

Let us together preserve and translate the dreams of the founder of IACS for human well-being.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their own dreams” - Eleanor Roosevelt.
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Devendra K. Agrawal Young Investigator Awards
Competition - Established By IACS-India Section

Professor Devendra K. Agrawal
PhD (Biochem), PhD (Med. Sciences), MBA, MS (ITM), FAAAAI, FAHA, FAPS, FIACS

Professor Devendra K. Agrawal is Chairman of the Dept of Clinical & Translational Science. He is also the Peekie Nash Carpenter Endowed Chair in Medicine as well as Senior Associate Dean for Clinical & Translational Research at the Creighton University School of Medicine Omaha, NE 68178-0405, USA.

Dr. Devendra K. Agrawal earned M.Sc. (Chemistry) in 1973 and Ph.D. (Biochemistry) in 1978 from Lucknow University, India. Following his services as a Clinical Biochemist at King George’s Medical College, Lucknow, India, Dr. Agrawal moved to Canada and earned Ph.D. (Medical Sciences) in 1984 from McMaster University, Canada (Advisor-Professor Edwin E. Daniel) followed by a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada (Advisor-Professor John McNeill). In 1985, he was appointed as an Assistant Professor at Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, Nebraska, USA where he rose to the rank of Full Professor in 1997. Dr. Agrawal also earned MBA in 2004 and MS (ITM) in 2005 from Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, USA. He founded the Center for Clinical & Translational Research at Creighton University, which is recently developed into an independent Department.

Dr. Agrawal is a member of the Alpha Omega Omega Honor Medical Society and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, Fellow of the American Heart Association, Fellow of the American Physiological Society, and Fellow of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. Creighton University recognized and honored Dr. Agrawal with many awards, including Young Investigator Award, Distinguished Research Career Award, Distinguished Professor Award, Distinguished Faculty Service Award, University Research Award and Distinguished Mentor Award at Creighton. In 2001, the Midwest Chapter of American Association of Physicians of India recognized Dr. Agrawal for his contribution as a teaching professor, researcher and mentor. The India Association of Nebraska recognized him with the Man of the Year award in 2000 and Award of Excellence in appreciation of outstanding service and contribution to Nebraska Community at large in 2013. Recently, the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences recognized Dr. Agrawal with the Professor Bohuslav Ostadal Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences and Distinguished Leadership Award. Dr. Agrawal has been an invited speaker to many prestigious national and international scientific meetings.

Dr. Agrawal has served on many grant review panels, including VA Merit Review, NIH-CSF, DoD, NIH-NIAID, NIH-NHLBI, MRC-UK and US-Israel BSF Grant Review Committees, Science Foundation Ireland, Austrian Science Fund, British Lung Foundation, Swiss NSF, and Asthma Research Foundation of Western Australia. Dr. Agrawal has served/is serving on editorial board of several journals, including J. Immunology, American Journal of
Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology, Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology. Dr. Agrawal has authored/co-authored >320 original papers in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. He has co-edited three books in the area of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. His major research interests have been in the area of cellular, molecular and immunobiology of pulmonary and vascular diseases. NIH funds his research projects. In collaboration with clinical scientists, Dr. Agrawal has developed active and productive research projects in many fields, including bariatric surgery, oesophageal diseases, rotator cuff injury, osteoarthritis, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, malignant melanoma, ulcerative colitis, Crohn’s disease, lung cancer, keloids and hypertrophic scar. He has trained about 48 postdoctoral fellows and 52 MD-PhD/PhD/MS students in cellular, molecular, and immunobiology of clinical diseases. At Creighton University, Dr. Agrawal has been developing multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary approaches and new perspectives in the advancement of Clinical & Translational Science, mentoring and training new generation of translational researchers.

2016 Medal of Merit – Call for Nominations

The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences requests Nominations/Applications for the Award of 2016 Medal of Merit. This highest honour of the Academy will be bestowed upon an individual who has made original research discoveries that clearly stand on their own or for contributing important educational services that have influenced how cardiovascular science is learned and practiced. The previous 31 Medal of Merit Recipients are listed on page 3 of CV Network 15, 2016 (www.heartacademy.org). Four recent recipients are: Laurentiu M. Popescu, Romania; Makoto Nagano, Japan; Roberto Bolli, USA; Francois Abboud, USA. A two page summary of achievements along with a complete bibliography and two references should be sent by July 15, 2016 to Dr. N.S. Dhalla, Executive Director IACS, St Boniface Albrechtsen Research Center, Winnipeg, Canada (email: nsdhalla@sbrc.ca)

Call for Applications/Nominations for the IACS Fellowships

The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences awards Fellowships to established investigators/promotors of cardiovascular activities all over the world. These individuals are usually full professors, senior scientists and/or high profile administrators in the area of cardiovascular sciences. At any given time, the total number of Fellows will not exceed 250 (www.heartacademy.org; see listing of active Fellows on pages 24-27 of the CV Network, Volume 15, 2016). Applications/Nominations with 2 pages of major achievements and CV should be sent by July 15, 2016 to N.S. Dhalla, Executive Director, IACS, St. Boniface Albrechtsen Research Center, Winnipeg, Canada (Email: nsdhalla@sbrc.ca)
In Memoriam: Dr. Horacio Eugenio Cingolani

By:
Ricardo J. Gelpi
School of Medicine
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Dr. Cingolani was born in Las Flores, Buenos Aires, on the 25th of November, 1934. At a young age he moved to the city of La Plata to begin his medical studies, graduating as Doctor of Medicine in 1961. In 1964 he obtained an international scholarship to work at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), more specifically in the prestigious laboratory of Dr. Stanley Sarnoff. On his return to Argentina in 1966, he joined the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the School of Medicine of the National University of La Plata, where he did all his Scientific and Academic career, reaching the position of Associate Professor in 1970 and Full Professor in 1972. In 2009 he became Professor Emeritus at the National University of La Plata. At the same time he developed a successful career in CONICET where he was appointed with the highest position in 1981. He was also Associate Professor in Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA; and Visiting Professor in the University of Utrecht, Holland; R.W. Johnson School of Medicine, NJ, USA; and Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA.

In 1980, Dr. Cingolani, who belonged to the Board of Directors of the American Section of the International Society for Heart Research, following Arnold Katz’s suggestion, was conferred the creation of the Latin American Section. It was founded in 1983, and Dr Cingolani was elected its General Secretary. Years after, he participated in the International Academy of Cardiovascular (IACS) Sciences scientific meetings and in 1997 he was elected to be part of the Board of Directors. IACS also designated him Fellow Emeritus in recognition of his scientific career and in 2015 awarded him the Lifetime Achievement Award. In Argentina, Dr. Cingolani was the president of the Argentine Federation of Cardiology in 1974 and he also actively participated in numerous congresses of the Argentine Society of Cardiology. In 2004 he was elected President of the Argentine Society of Clinical Research. His research topic was related, during his entire scientific career, to the study of ventricular function in the healthy heart and also in different pathologies such as ischemic heart disease, myocardial hypertrophy, arterial hypertension, and heart failure. In the beginning of his scientific career his studies were directed in knowing the purely physiological aspects, and as years went by, it was aimed to know the different molecular and cellular aspects of the aforementioned pathologies. Of particular importance are his contributions to the knowledge of membrane exchangers, especially sodium/hydrogen and sodium-calcium exchangers and their role in the development of myocardial hypertrophy and heart failure. He also made significant contributions to the knowledge of arterial hypertension and the vascular smooth muscle. Dr. Cingolani has authored or co-authored over 200 research papers, most of them have been published in international prestigious scientific journals. He has served on the editorial board of European Journal of Cardiology, Acta Physiologica et Pharmacologica Latinoamericana, Canadian Journal of Cardiology, Journal of Pharmacological and Toxicological Methods, News in Physiological Sciences, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology, Experimental and Clinical Cardiology, Circulation Research, and Cardiology Reviews.

Particularly important was his capacity to train human resources in teaching and research. In this sense, his laboratory grew exponentially from the ‘80s, significantly increasing the number of researchers and fellows. This growth is maintained nowadays through his disciples, and it is translated in an important amount of publications per year in high-impact journals in the cardiovascular area. In direct relation to the aforementioned, it should be emphasized that he has trained researchers at a postdoctoral level that today have been integrated as professors in other universities in Argentina and other countries. Also, his laboratory has received interns and visitor professors from different countries.

If we just consider the different positions and assignments accomplished, one could conclude that his career was...
simply “brilliant”; however, those of us who have had the opportunity of meeting and living with him for many years know that his greatest success was not the titles or positions reached. His greatest achievement was, undoubtedly, the generation of new knowledge in different areas of Cardiovascular Physiology and Pathophysiology, moved by his passion for scientific research. He vehemently defended the importance of knowing pathophysiology, which he defined as “the poetry of medicine”, as a fundamental tool in cardiologists’ training, and he also struggled to integrate basic and applied research and prevent their being two separate isolated compartments. He insisted that the best is to achieve the tripod: Assistance - Teaching - Research concept that was widely shared by his close friend and colleague of many years, Dr. Carlos Bertolaši. From an interview made in 2009 by a leading national newspaper, in the opportunity of receiving the Bernardo Houssay Lifetime Achievement Award, the most important scientific distinction of Argentina, I quote the following paragraphs that define Cingolani himself “…we are basic researchers, we do not pursue immediate application, utility and commercialism. We have been taught that if we do it right, if it is excellent, it will have its application in the future. For that we must believe in what we do...”; and ended that interview quoting Julius Comroe: “…In medicine, two-thirds of the greatest contributions were done by those who did not intend to solve immediate practical problems, only seeking the truth of an unknown mechanism”. In 1976 he created the Cardiovascular Research Institute at the School of Medicine of the National University of La Plata, Argentina, where I had the honor and privilege of working under his leadership for many years. There, I became deeply acquainted with him. Of a hard, tough temper, sometimes perhaps excessively, but at the same time noble and loyal with his principles and convictions, always concerned for his people to have a scholarship or teaching position that would allow them to work; and thus, unselfishly, he contributed to the formation of several generations of scholars and researchers. He first set the hardest standards for himself, which for those of us who were training was a very strong and positive message. Unfortunately, on March 18th of this year, that tireless and exceptional life ended. It will not be easy to replace him in all his magnitude, especially because his life was spent with human and professional values that today, for different reasons, that it is irrelevant to discuss, are increasingly difficult to find.

He also had time to enjoy one of his favourite hobbies, sailing, and having bought a sailboat he sailed for many years in the Rio de la Plata, having participated in nautical competitions. He was also president of the La Plata Yacht club, his beloved city. Parallel to his love for science and sailing, he also built a beautiful family, comprised of his wife Gladys Chiappe Cingolani and three children: Oscar, Eugenio and Celia, who gave him loving grandchildren in the last years.

I cannot conclude, without expressing my respect, appreciation and affection for whom has been the motivating example of several generations of basic or clinical cardiovascular researchers, and that today, some of us try to continue with his example.

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In Memoriam: Prof. Mudr. Frank Kölbel, DSc.
1933-2016

By:
B. Ostadal
J. Hradec
P. Ostadal, Prague

We very much regret having to announce the death of Professor Frank Kölbel, D.Sc., eminent Czech cardiologist who died after a long lasting disease on April, 2014. He was educated at the Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague from which he received an M.D. in 1957. He completed his internship at the 3rd Department of Medicine, one of the best clinical units in the country, where he spent a total of 32 years. In this Department, primarily oriented on endocrinology, Dr. Kölbel founded young, progressive and very active cardiological group which very quickly belonged to the leading cardiological teams in the former Czechoslovak Republic. A bachelor throughout his life, he regarded the members of his group as his family. Shaped in this way, Kölbel’s scholars became role models in their turn, passing on knowledge and creating new levels of accountability among an ever-expanding group of cardiologists. Since the very beginning, Kölbel’s main area of research has been focused on cardiac metabolism, ageing of cardiovascular system and finally on the serious problems of congenital heart defects in adults. In 1965, he was appointed as the research fellow of the International Cardiology Foundation in the laboratory of prof. Mommaerts at the University of California in Los Angeles for two years. While in USA, his research interest was concentrated on the proteosynthesis during development of experimental hypertrophy. His invaluable experimental experience helped him to develop in his Prague research group the effective combination of clinical and theoretical approach. They continued with the analysis of cardiac hypertrophy, with particular attention to the effect of isoproterenol on the cardiac growth. This study led to discovery of the endogenous “digoxin-like factor”, which is involved in the mechanisms of cardiac adaptation to overload. As a consequence, Dr. Kölbel organized very successful international symposium “Adaptability of the Cardiac Muscle” in Prague in 1974. The long-term influence of Kölbel’s extensive experimental work is impressive and has opened up new horizons, also extending to clinical applications. It is, therefore, no wonder that Dr. Kölbel was very soon involved in the cooperation of experimental and clinical cardiologists in the country. They created national Committee of Experimental and Clinical Cardiology, organizing very productive meetings every year. The long-lasting successful tradition of this group was one of the reasons why the XV Congress of the International Society for Heart Research was organized in Prague in 1995; Dr. Kölbel was one of the leading organizers. In addition, he organized very successful international meetings “Hormones and the heart” in 1983, and “Adult Congenital Heart Disease” in 1998, both in Prague. Moreover, he was one of the national organizers of the XVI World Congress of the Internal Medicine in Prague in 1982, the first one, organized in former Eastern Europe. All these activities are the best evidence of his extraordinary organizing talent. From 1990, Dr. Kölbel was appointed as the Head of Department of Medicine at the 2nd Faculty of Medicine in Prague for another 10 years. He published 7 books, 6 textbooks and 280 publications.

Dr. Kölbel served as the president of the Czech Medical Association (1998-2008) and as a member of the Board of the Czech Cardiological Society (1991-1995). He was the Fellow of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Kölbel has received numerous awards and distinctions from scientific societies in recognition of his achievements and services. Among them are Gold Medal of the Czech Society of Cardiology and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, announced during IACS-European Section Meeting in Belgrade, October 2015. This global recognition demonstrates the wide-spread admiration and affection in which he is regarded worldwide. With his death, cardiology has lost one of his unforgettable sons.
SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

In 2016, the 3rd European Section Meeting of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS) coincides with the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences by Professor Naranjan Dhalla. On this very special occasion, the meeting is planned to be held between October 1-4 on a cruise ship operated by Pullmantur Cruises (based in Spain), fully equipped with facilities to hold such a scientific meeting. On behalf of the IACS and the Organizing Committee we have great pleasure in inviting you to this fascinating scientific meeting presented on the following topics:

- Clinical and theoretical aspects of ventricular arrhythmias and sudden cardiac death
- Atrial fibrillation: clinical therapy, novel and future strategies of AF management
- Clinical and theoretical aspects of heart failure
- Cardioprotection, clinical application of cardioprotection
- Genetics and cardiovascular disease
- Coronary angiogenesis from bench to bedside

The translational scientific meeting will feature both basic science and clinical sessions, including lectures of invited speakers and oral communications selected from submitted abstracts. We would like to provide opportunities for a number of young investigators to discuss their latest results in both oral and poster presentations.

We believe that your participation will greatly contribute to the success of the meeting and provide an opportunity to discuss the latest advances in experimental and clinical cardiovascular research. In addition to high quality science, the organisers wish to provide a friendly atmosphere aboard ship and in addition, various relaxing and cultural programmes will be available. We invite you to join us at this meeting, to renew old friendships, and to make new ones! Updated information and the application form will be available on the homepage of IACS European Section: [http://www.iacs.sav.sk/meetings.html](http://www.iacs.sav.sk/meetings.html)

Chairman of the Meeting: Prof. András Varró, MD, DSc
Honorary Chairman of the Meeting: Prof. Naranjan S. Dhalla, PhD, MD (Hon), DSc (Hon)

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Dragan M. Djuric, Belgrade, Serbia
Ferenc Gallyas, Pécs, Hungary
Vladimir Jakovljevic, Kragujevac, Serbia
Keld Kjeldsen, Copenhagen, Denmark
Frantisek Kolar, Prague, Czech Republic
Danina Muntean, Timisoara, Romania
Bohuslav Ostadal, Prague, Czech Republic
Petr Ostadal, Prague, Czech Republic
Zoltán Papp, Debrecen, Hungary
Grant N. Pierce, Winnipeg, Canada
Tania Ravingerova, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
Rolf-Edgar Silber, Halle, Germany
Jaipaul Singh Preston, UK
Jan Šlezák, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
Belta Turan, Ankara, Turkey
Guy Vassort, Montpellier, France
Agnes Végh, Szeged, Hungary
Karl Werdan, Halle, Germany
Registration and ship information

Registration fee is 600 €/person with double cabin occupancy. Junior registration fee: 400€/person, only with double cabin occupancy. To qualify for Junior registration fee, the registrant must be a PhD student OR have a PhD degree obtained in 2013 or later (documentation required) AND must not be older than 38. In case of single cabin occupancy, with the possibility of one accompanying person, the registration fee is 1200 €/person (with no additional cost but full board hospitality for the accompanying person). The registration fee also covers on board costs of accommodation (3 nights) and full meals with drink package.

Registration fees should be paid by bank transfer to the following bank account:

Account holder name: IACS-ES FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE OF CARDIOLOGY RESEARCH Bank name: ERSTE BANK HUNGARY ZRT.
SWIFT Code: GIBAHUHB
IBAN Account Number: HU3511600060000000076825530

Please indicate your name and city of origin on the payment. Payment details will be also available at the IACS-ES website: http://www.iacs.sav.sk/meetings.html

Registration deadline: July 18, 2016. Payment deadline: July 18, 2016.

Late registration, following July 18, 2016 may be possible, and will depend on cabin availability, at 700€/person with double cabin occupancy, and at 1400€/person with single occupancy (with no additional cost for an accompanying person). All participants will receive an official Certificate of Attendance and an official Conference Registration Fee Invoice.

Since the number of available cabins is limited, please make sure you register at your earliest convenience, registrations will be handled on a first-come first-served basis.

Conference abstract submission deadline: July 18, 2016 both for oral and poster presentations. Please indicate your preference for oral or poster presentation on the registration form. Presenters of abstracts accepted and selected for an oral 15-min talk will receive an official invitation letter. Abstract submission forms can be downloaded from the IACS-ES website: http://www.iacs.sav.sk/meetings.html

Publication opportunity for presenters
The abstracts of all oral and poster presentations will be published in Current Research: Cardiology. Presenters will also be encouraged to submit a full manuscript based on the material presented at the conference for consideration to be published in the Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology or Current Research: Cardiology. Manuscript submissions will be subjected to peer-review process.

Travel grants
Junior registrants can apply for travel grants for this conference. Applicants must send a Travel Grant Application Form (form can be downloaded from the IACS-ES website), a brief, 1-page curriculum vitae and their conference abstract to the following e-mail address: baczko.istvan@med.u-szeged.hu. Travel grant application deadline: June 6, 2016. Please attach documents proving Junior registrant status (see above). Travel grants will be granted based on the decision of the Council of the European Section of the IACS. The number of travel grants will depend on availability of sponsor funds.

Young Investigator Award Competition
Young investigators (under the age of 33) are encouraged to submit their CV, oral abstract, and a maximum 2- page summary of the research constituting the basis of their talk to baczko.istvan@med.u-szeged.hu. A Committee will choose 6 finalists who will present their work at the Young Investigator Award Session at the meeting. Submission deadline: June 6, 2016.
Outline of Tentative Conference Program

Ship embarkation: Grand port maritime de Marseille, Marseille, France, 11:00-12:30, October 1, 2016.

Day 1 (October 1, 2016) – Ship leaves Marseille, France

11:00-12:30  Ship embarkation (separate check-in desks for conference attendees provided)
12:30-13:30  Lunch

Lecture Hall A (Theatre): PLENARY LECTURES
14:00-14:10  Opening ceremony
14:10-15:00  Selected Honorary Lecture
15:00-15:30  Naranjan Dhalla, Winnipeg, Canada
15:30-16:00  Kálmán Tóth, Pécs, Hungary
  Myocardial and vascular protection by PARP inhibitors
16:00-17:00  Safety regulations presentation and drill by Pullmantur staff

Lecture Halls C and E (Library Room and Conference Room)
17:00-19:00  Poster Session I (even poster numbers, with wine and cheese)
21:00-23:00  Dinner

Day 2 (October 2, 2016) – Ship arrives in Livorno, Italy (~ 7:00 AM)

Facultative program for accompanying persons: Excursion to Pisa and Florence

Parallel sessions in Lecture Halls B (Disco Bar), C (Library), D (Cardroom) and E (Conference Room)
9:00-10:30  Parallel oral sessions (invited speakers and oral abstract presentations)

Lecture Hall B – Clinical (Disco Bar)
Dan Gaita, Timisoara, Romania
To be determined

Zoltán Papp, Debrecen, Hungary
New vasodilators, inotropes and inodilators in the management of acute heart failure

Oral abstracts
Lecture Hall D – Basic science (Cardroom)
Dobromir Dobrev, Essen, Germany
New insights into the molecular mechanisms of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation

Antonio Zaza, Milan, Italy
Stability of the intracellular calcium store as an antiarrhythmic endpoint

Oral abstracts
10:30-10:50  Coffee break

Lecture Hall C – Basic science (Library)
Ferenc Gallyas, Pécs, Hungary
Role of mitochondrial integrity and network dynamics in regulation of cell death

Bohuslav Ošt’ádal, Prague, Czech Republic
Protection of the developing heart; possible role of mitochondria

Oral abstracts
Lecture Hall E – Basic science (Conference Room)
Tania Ravingerova, Bratislava, Slovakia
Activation of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors as a potential mechanism of remote preconditioning-induced cardioprotection in healthy and diseased hearts

Ricardo Gelpi, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Myocardial triggers involved in remote ischemic preconditioning activation

Oral abstracts
Parallel sessions in Lecture Halls A (Theatre), B (Disco Bar), C (Library), D (Cardroom), E (Conference)

10:50-12:00  Parallel oral sessions (invited speakers and oral abstract presentations)

**Lecture Hall A – Clinical (Theatre)**

Zoltán Csanádi, Debrecen, Hungary  
Mechanisms of atrial fibrillation: lessons from a 20-year experience of transcatheter ablation

Oral abstracts

**Lecture Hall C – Basic science (Library)**

Rakesh Kukreja, Richmond, USA  
PDE5 inhibition in protection of diabetic heart

Oral abstracts

**Lecture Hall E – Basic science (Conference Room)**

Péter Ferdinándy, Budapest, Hungary  
Function genomics of cardioprotection

Belma Turan, Ankara, Turkey  
An investigation on the distribution of zinc-transporters in failing hearts of mammals

Oral abstract

**Lecture Hall A (Theatre): PLENARY LECTURES**

12:00-12:30  David Eisner, Manchester, UK  
Systolic and diastolic calcium: in and out of control

12:30-13:00  Gary Lopaschuk, Edmonton, Canada  
Targeting cardiac fatty acid oxidation to treat heart failure

13:00-15:00  Lunch

[14:00-16:00]  IACS Board Meeting for Council members (Teens’ Club Room)

Parallel sessions in Lecture Halls A (Theatre), B (Disco Bar), C (Library), D (Cardroom), E (Conference)

15:00-16:50  Parallel oral sessions (invited speakers and oral abstract presentations)

**Lecture Hall A – Clinical (Theatre)**

Amarjit Arneja, Winnipeg, Canada  
To be determined

Frans HH Leenen, Ottawa, Canada  
Role of CNS MR - AT1R signaling in heart failure

Oral abstracts

**Lecture Hall E – Basic science (Conference Room)**

Dragan Djuric, Belgrade, Serbia  
To be determined

Michael Czubryt, Winnipeg, Canada  
Development of novel therapeutics for cardiac fibrosis

Nilanjana Maulik, Farmington, USA  
To be determined

Oral abstracts

**Lecture Hall B – Clinical (Disco Bar)**

Ramesh G Goyal, Chennai, India  
Genome based diagnostics and therapeutics in cardiovascular complications: any light in the tunnel?

Oral abstracts

**Lecture Hall D – Basic science (Cardroom)**

Grant Pierce, Winnipeg, Canada  
Infection and heart disease: new therapeutic option

Oral abstracts

Lecture Hall D (Library)

Young Investigator Award Competition
Lecture Halls B and C (Conference Room and Library Room)

17:00-19:00 Poster Session II (odd poster numbers, with wine and cheese)
21:00-23:00 Dinner

Day 3 (October 3, 2016) – Ship arrives in Bastia, Corsica (~ 7:00 AM)

Social Programme: excursion in Corsica - fee depends on availability of sponsor funds

13:00-15:00 Lunch
[14:00-16:00] IACS Board Meeting for Council members (Teens’ Club Room)

Parallel sessions in Lecture Halls A (Theatre), B (Disco Bar), C (Library), D (Cardroom), E (Conference)

15:00-17:00 Parallel oral sessions (invited speakers and oral abstract presentations)

Lecture Hall A – Clinical (Theatre)

Róbert Sepp, Szeged, Hungary
Screening for known and novel genetic variants in ion channel diseases with next generation sequencing

Naoki Makino, Beppu, Japan
Telomere biology and cardiovascular disease

Oral abstracts

Lecture Hall B – Clinical (Disco Bar)

Ramesh G Goyal, Chennai, India
Genome based diagnostics and therapeutics in cardiovascular complications: any light in the tunnel?

András Farkas, Szeged, Hungary
Acquired long QT syndrome: does it matter for the clinician or just for the safety pharmacologist?

Oral abstracts

Lecture Hall C – Basic science (Library)

Madhu Kullar, Chandigarh, India
Role of microRNAs in dilated cardiomyopathy: miRNA-33a as a putative therapeutic target in dilated cardiomyopathy

Katja E Odening, Freiburg, Germany
Transgenic rabbit models for inherited arrhythmia disorders long-QT and short-QT syndrome

Attila Farkas, Szeged, Hungary
The assessment of structural remodeling and proarrhythmic sensitivity in a new rabbit athlete's heart model

Oral abstracts

Lecture Hall D – Basic science (Cardroom)

Ján Slezák, Bratislava, Slovakia
Protection of the heart in situations of increased production of oxygen free radicals: radiation and reperfusion injury

Suresh Tyagi, Louisville, USA
To be determined

Danina Muntean, Timisoara, Romania
Crosstalk of Methylene Blue With Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors in Modulating Mitochondrial ROS Generation in Diabetic Rats

Oral abstracts

Lecture Hall E – Clinical (Conference Room)

Helen Maddock, Coventry, UK
New therapeutic strategies to protect the heart from cancer drugs

Oral abstracts

17:30-19:00 Award Ceremony (Disco Bar)
21:00-23:00 Dinner

Day 4 (October 4, 2016) – Ship arrives in Marseille, France (~ 8:00 AM)

Arrival and disembarkation
Dr. Rakesh Kukreja is Eric Lipman Distinguished Professor in Cardiology and Scientific Director of the Pauley Heart Center at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) at Richmond Virginia. He leads the nationally recognized research program in Molecular Cardiology. Dr. Kukreja’s research is focused in the area of cardioprotective signaling in the setting of ischemia/reperfusion injury, Type II diabetes and cancer drug toxicity. He was the first to show the cardioprotective effect of PDE5 inhibitors including sildenafil (Viagra) against ischemia/reperfusion injury, heart failure and doxorubicin-induced cardiomyopathy. These pioneering investigations from his laboratory have led to several clinical trials in heart failure and cancer, including one in the Massey Cancer Center at VCU. Dr. Kukreja has received 2 patents and published more than 180 research papers in many prestigious journals including Circulation Research, Circulation, Journal of Biological Chemistry, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, American Journal of Physiology and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. He has authored two books, one of which was translated into Portuguese. During the last 22 years, Dr. Kukreja has served on a number of NIH study sections and international review panels including Italian Association for Cancer Research, TV7 Foundation (Spain), Qatar National Research Foundation and Israel Binational Science Foundation. He is Academic Editor of PLOS One and serves on the editorial board of several reputable journals including Circulation Research, Molecular Pharmacology American Journal of Physiology, Journal of Molecular and Cellular Medicine and several others. Dr. Kukreja is an elected fellow of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, American Physiological Society (Cardiovascular Section) and member of several other professional organizations. He has a record of nearly 3 decades of funding from the NIH, American Heart Association and pharmaceutical companies. In 2006, Dr. Kukreja also received a very prestigious MERIT Award from the National, Heart, Lung and Blood Institute which provided him 10 years of continuous research funding. During the last 20 years, Dr. Kukreja has mentored 8 doctoral students, 13 graduate students, 24 postdoctoral fellows, 23 cardiology fellows, 3 junior faculty members and a dozens of undergraduate, medical and high school students. Many of his past trainees are enjoying successful independent careers in academia, industry, government and private practice. During his research career, Dr. Kukreja has received numerous prestigious awards, which include VCU’s Distinguished Scholarship Award in 2009, Virginia’s Outstanding Scientist of the Year award in 2010, the Norman Alpert Award for Established Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences from the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences and Ken Bowman Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Research from the University of Manitoba in 2013.
The council of IACS-European Section has approved the selection of Professor Ursula Ravens as the 2016 Naranjan Dhalla Honorary Lecturer.

Ursula Ravens obtained her medical degree from Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg in 1969. While still in medical school she started experimental work in the electrophysiology lab at the Department of Physiology. After a short interim in clinical medicine for her internship she joined Heinz Litthmann, head of the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Kiel, as a research fellow in 1970. After doing her "Habilitation" in 1979, she spent some time as a guest scientist with Gerrit Isenberg at the University of Homburg. In 1985 she obtained her first permanent position as a Professor of Cardiovascular Pharmacology at Essen University. After a sabbatical at Imperial College London in 1995 with Sian Harding she was appointed full Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Medical Faculty of Dresden University of Technology, where she moved to in 1997 and has worked there since.

Dr. Ravens has participated in the European Society of Cardiology "working group" meetings from the very start and served as chairperson of European Working Group on Cardiac Cellular Electrophysiology 1996-1998. Together with her long-time collaborator Erich Wettwer, she organised the 1996 EWGCCE meeting in Essen and the 2001 meeting in Dresden. In 2004, she also organised the European Section meeting of the International Society for Heart Research in Dresden and was President of the 2004 Annual Meeting of the German Cardiological Society in Mannheim. She has served as a member of the Editorial Board of Cardiovascular Research, Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology, European Journal of Pharmacology, Europace, Naunyn-Schmiedeberg’s Archives of Pharmacology. She is a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology and of the American Heart Association, and is an elected member of the German National Academy of Medicine and Sciences "Leopoldina". She holds a doctor-honoris-causa title of the University of Szeged, and a honorary professorship in cardiology from the Military Postgraduate Medical School Beijing.

Dr. Ravens' research interests have been in cardiovascular pharmacology in health and disease. Combining action potential and force of contraction measurements, she studied many of the then fashionable drugs like digitalis glycosides, phosphodiesterase 3 inhibitors, sodium channel modulating toxins on cardiac excitation-contraction coupling and came to the conclusion that membrane potential does not control contraction, but only modulates force development depending on the underlying ion mechanism of change in action potential morphology. The then novel single-electrode voltage clamp technique, learnt in Homburg, Saar, provided a useful tool for dissecting drug effects on ion channels.

Professor Ursula Ravens has been very supportive towards the cardiovascular scientists working in the Central-Eastern-South European region. She trained in her lab 6 PhD students and/or postdoc young scientists from Hungary, Poland and Italy. She has fruitful cooperation with the Institute of Pharmacology University of Szeged in Hungary since 1999, resulting 9 publications in leading cardiology and pharmacology journals.

She accomplished 375 full length publications with cumulative impact points of 1543.7, H-index: 40 and she earned 9228 citations.
26th Scientific Forum
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CARDIOVASCULAR INSTITUTE - SERV COR
TRUTH IS JESUS - ST. JOHN 14, 6

Quality Hotel Pampulha
7456 Presidente Antônio Carlos Ave, São Luiz, Belo Horizonte - MG, Brazil
20 - 22 OCTOBER 2016

XXII FORUM PROF. DR. NARANJAN S. DHALLA - SOUTH AMERICAN SESSION -
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES
XXXIV BRAZILIAN CONGRESS OF EXTRACORPOREAL CIRCULATION
I FORUM OF EXTRACORPOREAL CIRCULATION
VI FORUM OF CARDIOVASCULAR BIOMEDICINE
XVIII ECUMENIC FORUM
"TO HEAL THE WOUNDED HEARTS - ST. ISAIAH 61, 1"
- ARCHBISHOP DOM WALMOR OLIVEIRA DE AZEVEDO -

XII BRAZILIAN MEETING ON CARDIOLOGY FOR THE FAMILY
VI SYMPOSIUM OF BRAZIL ASSOCIATION OF POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS ON CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY - ABRECCV
XIII STUDENT'S BRAZILIAN CONGRESS OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES LEAGUES
XVII INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON APPLIED CARDIOVASCULAR PHYSIOLOGY
XII BRAZILIAN SYMPOSIUM ON ANGIOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL COURSE OF SCIENTIFIC INITIATION

INFORMATION:
WWW.FORUMCIENTIFICO.COM | SECRETARIASERVCOR@SERVCOR.COM | +55 (31) 3439.3004
The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences is pleased to announce the following cardiovascular awards to be given at the IACS-North America Section annual meetings:

A. Young Investigator Awards:

1. James Willerson Young Investigator Award Competition in Translational Medicine - Four postdoctoral fellows/residents will be selected for presentation and the winner will receive $1,000 and a plaque.

2. Grant Pierce Young Investigator Award Competition in Biomedical Science - Four graduate students will be selected for presentation and the winner will receive $1,000 and a plaque.

B. Young Faculty Awards:

1. Roberto Bolli Young Faculty Award Competition in Translational Medicine - Four faculty members (within 10 years of appointment) will be selected for presentation and the winner will receive $1,000 and a plaque.

2. Gary Lopaschuk Young Faculty Award Competition in Biomedical Science - Four faculty members (within 10 years of appointment) will be selected for presentation and the winner will receive $1,000 and a plaque. The other applicants will be considered for oral presentation.

C. Poster Presentation Awards:

1. Morris Karmazyn Poster Awards in Translational Medicine - Four individuals from this Poster Session will be selected. Each awardee will receive $500 and a certificate.

2. Margaret P. Moffat Poster Awards in Biomedical Science - Four individuals from this Poster Session will be selected. Each awardee will receive $500 and a certificate.

D. Established Investigator Awards

Four individuals from the list of invited speakers will be selected for the Howard Morgan Award, Norman Alpert Award, Naranjan Dhalla Award and a Special Award. Each awardee will receive $1,000 and a plaque.

Past Award Winners at the Annual IACS-North American Section Meetings

Grant Pierce Young Investigator Award (Graduate Students)
2013 (Louisville, Kentucky): Tareq Al-Maqtari (Louisville)
2014 (Winnipeg, Manitoba): Yehia Fanous (Ottawa)
2015 (Omaha, Nebraska): Izuagie A. Ikhapoh (Omaha)

James Willerson Young Investigator Award (Postdoctoral Fellows and Residents):
2013 (Louisville, Kentucky): Christopher W. White (Winnipeg)
2014 (Winnipeg, Manitoba): Kumar Narayanan (Los Angeles)
2015 (Omaha, Nebraska): Monica M. Santisteban (Gainesville)

Eric Olson Young Faculty Award (Biomedical Sciences)
2013 (Louisville, Kentucky): Michael P. Czubryt (Winnipeg)
2014 (Winnipeg, Manitoba): Samarjit Das (Baltimore)
2015 (Omaha, Nebraska): Neeru M. Sharma (Omaha)

Kern Wildenthal Young Faculty Award (Translational Medicine):
2013 (Louisville, Kentucky): Davinder Jassal (Winnipeg)
2014 (Winnipeg, Manitoba): Darren Freed (Edmonton)
2015 (Omaha, Nebraska): Noah J. Marcus (Des Moines)
Annual Meeting of the North American Section of the
International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences

4th Cardiovascular Forum for Promoting Centres of Excellence and Young Investigators

September 22 - 24, 2016
Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada

Sponsored by

Chairman: Ghassan Bkaily
FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITÉ DE SHERBROOKE
Email: Ghassan.Bkaily@USherbrooke.ca

Sherbrooke skyline and Mount Orford

Graphic Design: Communications Office, FMS, Université de Sherbrooke
International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences
Officers and Executive Council Members (2015-17)
North American Section

President
Grant Pierce
Winnipeg, Canada

Past President
Dennis McNamara
New Orleans, USA

Vice President & Incoming President
Gary Lopaschuk
Edmonton, Canada

Secretary
Dinender Singla
Orlando, USA

Council Members
Devendra K. Agrawal, Omaha, USA
Ghassan Bkaily, Sherbrooke, Canada
Michael Czubryt, Winnipeg, Canada
Susan Howlett, Halifax, Canada
Morris Karmazyn, London, Canada
Doug Lewandowski, Chicago, USA
Martin Morad, Charleston, USA
Ravichandran Ramasamy, New York, USA
Stephen Schaffer, Mobile, USA
Deepak Srivastava, San Francisco, USA
Balwant Tuana, Ottawa, Canada
Suresh Tyagi, Louisville, USA
Carin Wittnich, Toronto, Canada

Dr. Naranjan S. Dhall
Executive Director, IACS

Dr. Grant Pierce
President, North American Section

www.heartacademy.org

CV Network Vol. 15 No 2 • May 2016 22
4th Cardiovascular Forum for Promoting Centers of Excellence and Young Investigators

Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada – September 22-24, 2016

Local Organizing Committee
Chair: Ghassan Bkaily, Professor, Faculty of Medicine, Université de Sherbrooke
Honorary Chair: Naranjan S. Dhalla, Distinguished Professor, University of Manitoba

André Carpentier, Professor, Department of Medicine
  Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Pedro D’Orléans-Juste, Professor, Department of Pharmacology
  Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Paul Farand, Professor, Department of Medicine
  Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Danielle Jacques, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology
  Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Michel Nguyen, Professor, Department of Medicine
  Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Serge Lepage, Professor, Department of Medicine
  Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Lucien Bergeron Jr., Scientific coordinator, CMDO, CRCHUS, Université de Sherbrooke

International Organization Committee:
Devendra Agrawal, Omaha
Mohamed Chaîne, Quebec
Michael Czubryt, Winnipeg
James Gilchrist, Winnipeg
Fernand Gobeil Jr., Sherbrooke
Susan Howlett, Halifax
Morris Karmazyn, London, Ontario
Chandraskhar Kartha, Trivandrum
Abdelouahed Khalil, Sherbrooke
Madhu Khullar, Chandigarh
Frantisek Kolar, Prague
Lorrie Kirshenbaum, Winnipeg
Ren-Ke Li, Toronto
Vincenzo Lionetti, Pisa
Gary Lopaschuk, Edmonton
Sheldon Magder, Montreal
Bruce McManus, Vancouver
Dennis McNamara, New Orleans

Note: We are currently waiting to hear from many other invited speakers!

Secretariat:
Mrs. Mélanie Roy, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology,
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada J1H 5N4, Email: Helene.Morin@USherbrooke.ca, Tel: 1-819-821-8000, ext. 70147

www.fourwav.es/IACSNA2016
General Information

**Forum Hotel**
Delta Sherbrooke Hotel and Conference Centre
2685 King Street West
Sherbrooke, QC J1L 1C1
Tel: 1-819-822-1989
The hotel is located on the main street in Sherbrooke and is within a 10-minute walking distance from the shopping mall.

**Shuttle Information**
A free shuttle from the Montreal airport to the conference site (Delta Sherbrooke Hotel) will be available for all delegates on Thursday, September 22 and back to Montreal airport on Sunday, September 25. The delegates will be asked to indicate their arrival time as well as the airline and flight number. Departure from the conference site to the Montreal airport or downtown Montreal will take place after breakfast at 9:00 AM on September 25. It is also possible to rent a car with a special price for the meeting at the Montreal airport. Driving is very easy and pleasant to the Eastern Townships (approximately a 90-minute drive from the airport). Parking at the hotel is free of charge. City bus passes for delegates will also be provided free of charge by the City of Sherbrooke.

**Early Bird Registration Start-Deadline and Fee**
May 20, 2016 to July 15, 2016
Students and postdoctoral fellows: 500 $ US includes hospitality
Regular attendee: 550 $ US includes hospitality

**Late Registration Fee**
Following July 15, 2016
Students and postdoctoral fellows: 600 $ US includes hospitality
Regular attendee: 650 $ US includes hospitality

**Registration Desk**
September 22: 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
September 23: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
September 24: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Abstract Submission Process & Deadlines**
Abstract submission starts on May 20, 2016. The submission deadline for abstracts to be published and presented at the forum is June 30, 2016. Abstracts can be submitted as part of the online registration process as well as separately. If your abstract is not fully prepared, we still encourage you to register. There is no abstract submission fee. However, in order to be eligible for award nomination and competitions, it is mandatory to register at the same time of abstract submission.

*Formatting requirements for abstracts are as follows:*
- Length limit is 250 words and must include the title, authors’ names and affiliations. Rich text formatting and special characters are permitted.
- On separate lines, include:
  1. the abstract title
  2. authors names [Last name, First name, middle initials] with numbers to denote affiliation and presenting author’s name underlined
  3. corresponding affiliations in numerical order
  4. the abstract body [structured or free form styles are both permitted]
  5. acknowledgements

*Please do not include author titles or credentials in the abstract itself.

**Regular Oral Presentations**
Speakers are allocated approximately 20 minutes

**Posters Oral Presentations**
Speakers are allocated approximately 5 minutes.
**Speaker Ready Room**

Please provide your talk on a USB memory stick to the Speaker Ready Room at least 30 minutes prior to your session. You may make minor edits and review your talk at this time; however, access to the Ready Room PC is limited. Our staff will transfer your talk to the computer in your presentation room. Should you need to use your own laptop, please bring this to our staff’s attention at least 30 minutes prior to your session. For Apple users, please ensure that you have any required cables for interfacing to a standard VGA connector.

**Poster Presentations**

Posters should be mounted on the appropriate numbered poster boards before 9:00 AM on Friday, September 23. The posters should be displayed until 5 PM on Saturday, September 24. We are not responsible for any posters remaining in the Poster Room after 5:00 PM on Saturday, September 24.

**Exhibition Displays (Reception Lower Level Hall)**

**Hospitality**

All invited guests and registered participants have access to the following events:
1. Breakfast
2. Coffee
3. Lunches
4. Reception
5. Dinners/Entertainment

**Lecture Rooms**

Three lecture rooms located on the 2nd floor will be used simultaneously for the symposium sessions. Each symposium session room will be identified. A floor plan inside the back cover of the Program Book can be used for orientation purposes.

**Websites**

[www.cvforum.org](http://www.cvforum.org)
[www.fourwav.es/lACSNA2016](http://www.fourwav.es/lACSNA2016) (registration)

**Conference Administration:**

**Conference Coordinator**
Dr. Lucien Bergeron Jr.; Email: lucien.junior.bergeron@rcmdo.ca; Tel.: 819-820-6868, ext. 12703

**Chair of Hospitality, Accommodations and Audiovisual**
Dr. Johny Al-Khoury; Email: Johny.Al.Khoury@USherbrooke.ca; Cell: 819-212-1005
Mr. Marc Chamoun; Email: Marc.Chamoun@USherbrooke.ca; Cell: 819-919-0950

**Registration Team**
Ms. Rana Semaan; Email: Rana.Semaan@USherbrooke.ca; Cell: 819-437-6217
Dr. Yanick Simon; Email: Yanick.Simon@USherbrooke.ca; Cell: 819-919-2554

**Publication of the Proceedings of the Meeting**

Abstracts of all oral and poster presentations will be published. All attendees are welcome to submit a full original manuscript based on the material presented at the conference which will be published in the Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology (CJPP). The submitted papers, following the peer review process, will be published in the special edition for original work. A second issue will be devoted to invited review manuscripts including some original unpublished data.
Awards

As is the tradition, several competitions will take place during our meeting to promote young investigators. This includes:
Four oral sessions:
The Grant Pierce Young Investigator Award Competition in Cardiovascular Science for Graduate Students
The Gary Lopaschuk Young Faculty Award Competition in Cardiovascular Biomedical Sciences
The James Willerson Young Investigator Award Competition in Cardiovascular Medicine: Residents and Postdoctoral Fellows
The Roberto Bolli Young Faculty Award Competition in Cardiovascular Medicine
Two poster sessions:
The Margaret P. Moffat Award in Biomedical Sciences
The Morris Karmazyn Award in Translational Medicine.

Selected nominees will receive complimentary accommodation and/or registration and hospitality in addition to a plaque and a major cash prize.

Furthermore, Established Investigator Awards will be given to four worthy recipients from the list of invited speakers, who will be chosen for the Howard Morgan Award, Norman Alpert Award, Naranjan Dhall Award and a Special Award. Each awardee will receive a major cash prize and a plaque. We therefore kindly invite you to nominate an outstanding junior faculty member and/or a trainee to be considered for these various awards. The information required for these nominations includes the name of the nominee, contact information, a two-page CV and an abstract (250 words maximum).

PRELIMINARY SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
4:00 to 7:00 PM  Registration
6:00 to 7:00 PM  Inaugural Address dedicated to Dr. Naranjan S. Dhall on his 80th birthday
   Chair: Dr. Grant Pierce, Professor and President of IACS – North American Section
   University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada
   An address in the honour of Dr Dhall will be given by a prominent scientist in cardiovascular research
7:00 to 10:00 PM  Welcome Reception, Entertainment and Dinner Buffet
   Welcome Remarks
   Dr. Ghassan Bkaily, Chairman, 4th Cardiovascular Forum
   Sherbrooke, Canada
   Program Highlights
   Dr. Danielle Jacques, Secretary, 4th Cardiovascular Forum
   Sherbrooke, Canada

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
8:00 to 9:00 AM  Registration
8:00 to 9:00 AM  Breakfast and Networking
9:00 to 10:20 AM  1. Thematic Symposium: Cardiovascular Dysfunction in Chronic Diabetes
   2. Dr. Grant Pierce Young Investigator Award Competition in Cardiovascular Science: Graduate Students
   3. Gary Lopaschuk Young Faculty Award Competition in Cardiovascular Biomedical Sciences
10:20 to 10:40 AM  Coffee Break
10:40 AM to 12:00 PM  4. Thematic Symposium: Arrhythmias and Heart Failure in Hereditary Cardiovascular Diseases
   5. Thematic Symposium: Sodium-Hydrogen Exchange in Cardiovascular Diseases and Therapeutics
   6. James Willerson Young Investigator Award Competition in Cardiovascular Medicine: Residents and Postdoctoral Fellows
12:00 to 1:10 PM  Lunch Break and IACS-North America Executive Committee Business Meeting
1:10 to 2:30 PM  7. Thematic Symposium: Oxidants and anti-oxidants in heart health and diseases
   8. Dennis B. McNamara Symposium: Vascular disease and atherosclerosis
2:30 to 2:50 PM  Coffee Break
2:50 to 4:10 PM  10. Thematic Symposium: Cardiac regeneration
11. Karl Weber Symposium: Molecular basis for heart disease
12. Stephen Vatner Young Investigator Presentations

4:10 to 6:00 PM Wine and Cheese Combined Poster Session
13. Translational Medicine (Morris Karmazyn Award)
14. Biomedical Sciences (Margaret P. Moffat Award)

6:00 to 7:00 PM Presidential Address
7:00 PM Free Evening for Networking

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Registration
8:00 to 9:00 AM Breakfast and Networking
9:00 to 10:20 AM
15. Antihypertensive drugs: Where are we?
16. Tissue re-engineering in treatment of cardiovascular disease
17. Eric Olson Symposium: Cardiovascular Health and Disease

10:30 to 10:40 AM Coffee Break

10:40 AM to 12:00 PM
18. Roberto Bolli Young Faculty Award Competition in Cardiovascular Medicine
20. Thematic Symposium: Endothelium and cardiovascular disease

12:00 to 1:10 PM Lunch Break

1:10 to 2:30 PM
22. Bruce McManus Young Investigator Biomedical Presentations
23. Kern Wildenthal Symposium: Pathophysiology of hypertension and atherosclerosis

2:30 to 2:50 PM Coffee Break

2:50 to 4:10 PM Poster Oral Presentations
24. Translational Medicine (Morris Karmazyn Award)
25. Biomedical Sciences (Margaret P. Moffat Award)

4:10 to 6:00 PM Free time

6:00 to 10:00 PM IACS Awards Banquet and Closing Reception
9th International Conference of

Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences

(International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences – India Section)

16 – 18 December, 2016

Venue

Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI)
University of Delhi, Delhi (India)

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