Dear CVRI Council Members

Members of the CVRI Council were active participants at Scientific Sessions 2008. A highlight of the meeting was the well-attended International Congress on Cardiovascular Radiology Imaging co-sponsored by CVRI and Clinical Cardiology. This set of sessions, which began Saturday and ran concurrently with Scientific Sessions, featured the most internationally renowned investigators in cardiovascular imaging.

The Dotter Lecture by Dr. Geoffrey Rubin was very well received and provided the audience with a comprehensive overview of the present and potential future applications of CT in the diagnosis of cardiovascular disease.

The Melvin Judkins Young Investigator Award scientific session consisted of a group of high-quality scientific papers by young investigators. There were five finalists, and Dr. Aravindan Kolandaivelu was the winner of the 2008 Melvin Judkins Young Investigator Award.

At the Council Reception and Annual Business Meeting, the CVRI Council awarded the AHA Distinguished Achievement Award to Barry Katzen, MD. Every three years the Council has the opportunity to present this award and Dr. Katzen was recognized for his many years of service to the AHA.

Council members are encouraged to solicit new members to join the CVRI Council. As imaging is becoming increasingly important in the diagnosis and management of cardiovascular disease, it is important that our membership remain strong and we be ready to provide expertise in order to further the goals of the AHA.

Council members are also encouraged to join the “You’re the Cure” Network. This nationwide AHA network helps the AHA advocate for public policies that improve the health of our patients and secure adequate federal funding for cardiovascular disease prevention and research. The AHA Heart and Stroke Lobby Day will be held April 20 and 21, 2009, in Washington, D.C. There are ample opportunities for volunteerism in this advocacy network and one does not have to travel to Washington to become an effective participant. Please contact the Council if you wish to participate or go to www.yourethecure.org.
2008 Melvin Judkins Young Clinical Investigator Award

The Melvin Judkins Young Clinical Investigator Award, sponsored by the Council on Cardiovascular Radiology and Intervention, is named for the pioneer of coronary angiography and recognizes meritorious research and promotes careers in cardiovascular radiology. Candidates for this award are early career investigators pursuing research in the basic biological or medical sciences. Five finalists for the 2008 award presented their research in an oral abstract session at Scientific Sessions. As usual, the competition was highly competitive.

This year’s winner and finalists were:

Winner

Aravindan Kolandaivelu, MD
Johns Hopkins University
Non-invasive Assessment of Tissue Heating During Cardiac Radiofrequency Ablation Using MRI Thermography

Finalists

Michael Bonios, MD
Johns Hopkins University
Myocardial Substrate Determines Acute Cardiac Retention and Lung Biodistribution of Intramyocardially Injected Cardiac-Derived Stem Cells — A PET/CT Experimental Study

Allison Hays, MD
Johns Hopkins University
Non-invasive MRI Assessment of Coronary Endothelial-Dependent Vasoreactivity

Daniel Lee, MD
Northwestern University
Correcting the Underestimation of Absolute Myocardial Blood Flow by Magnetic Resonance Perfusion Imaging

Satoru Ohshima, MD
University of California, Irvine
Modulation of Atherosclerotic Plaque Characteristics By Minocycline: An Evaluation by Molecular Imaging of Matrix Metalloproteinase (MMP) Expression

Charles T. Dotter Memorial Lecture

Established in 1987 by the Council on Cardiovascular Radiology and Intervention in honor of Charles T. Dotter, who contributed significantly to the evaluation of cardiovascular angiography and who pioneered the development of angioplasty and other interventional cardiovascular procedures.

This year’s lecturer was Geoffrey Rubin, MD, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Chief of Cardiovascular Imaging, and Professor of Radiology, Stanford University School of Medicine. The title of the lecture was “More Surprises from the Healthy Donut.” In his characteristic insightful manner, Dr. Rubin presented an exciting and eloquent historical review of CT (“the donut”) and its rapidly emerging current and “healthy” future roles in cardiovascular medicine.