From the Program Committee Chair
Mary Cushman, MD, MSc

The 45th Annual Conference on Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology and Prevention, held in Washington, D.C., April 29–May 2, 2005, was a great success! The conference was undertaken in collaboration with our colleagues from the Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism, and with the 6th Annual Conference of the Council on Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology. I would like to thank the members of our Program Committee for their hard work in planning this conference. In addition, I am grateful to the meeting attendees, particularly those who presented their research; the quality of the science was indeed superb and inspiring!

Highlights of the conference included a “Bridge Day Program” with the ATVB and NPAM councils that included a debate on obesity and insulin resistance by Drs. Gerald Reaven and John Brunzell, a lecture on secondary prevention treatments by Dr. Thomas Bersot and a joint three-council poster session and reception. Dr. Jaakko Tuomilehto presented the 8th Frederick H. Epstein Memorial Lecture on the epidemic of diabetes and glucose intolerance. There was a lively debate on cost-effectiveness of LDL-cholesterol lowering presented by Drs. Sanford Schwartz and Leslee Shaw, and a lecture on clinical decision-making delivered by Dr. Lee Goldman. Finally, Dr. John Heit provided an overview of venous thrombosis epidemiology to introduce a new abstract category on this topic for next year’s conference.

Looking forward to seeing you at next year’s conference, March 2–4, 2006, at the Pointe Hilton, Squaw Peak, in Phoenix, Ariz. The abstract submission deadline for this meeting is October 3, 2005.
Research Awards

Congratulations to those who presented their work at our 2005 Spring Conference, especially to the finalists and winners of the conference awards:

Jeremiah and Rose Stamler Research Award for New Investigators
• Rebecca P. Gelber (winner), Harvard Medical School
• Erik Ingelsson, Uppsala University
• Liviu Klein, Northwestern University
• Khurram Nasir, Johns Hopkins University
• Sanjay Shrivastava, Brigham and Women’s Hospital

Sandra Daugherty Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Disease and Hypertension Epidemiology
• Susan G. Lakoski (winner), Wake Forest University
• Paul Muntner, Tulane University
• Kari E. North, UNC Chapel Hill
• Johan Sundstrom, Uppsala University

Roger R. Williams Memorial Award for Genetic Epidemiology and the Prevention and Treatment of Atherosclerosis
• Wei Chen (winner), Tulane University

Trudy Bush Fellowships for Cardiovascular Research in Women’s Health
• Alka Kanaya, University of California, San Francisco
• Eric Whitsel, UNC Chapel Hill
• Rachel Wildman, Tulane University
A Message from the Council Chair
Lori Mosca, MD, MPH, PhD

Much of the success of our council and our annual conference is due to the energy, creativity and dedication of members that step up to the plate to volunteer their time so we can share our best science and celebrate our successes. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to be active in our council and to serve as its ambassadors.

Your Leadership Committee wants you and needs you to be involved in the Epi Council. Together with Beth Lewis, our vice-chair, and the Leadership Committee, we broadened the membership on the committee to provide for greater demographic and geographic inclusiveness, especially striving to engage greater diversity in institutions and areas of expertise represented on our committee. I established a policy that each council committee should have a trainee or junior representative to ensure a pipeline of tomorrow’s leaders and secure our future.

Later this year, you will receive an e-mail survey to inquire about your interests and willingness to contribute to your council. The good news is that we are not asking for your money – only your time, which is, of course, most important. I encourage you to complete the survey and continue to help us keep CVD prevention front and center at the national level.

Consider applying for Fellowship in the Council on Epidemiology and Prevention

Fellowship is reserved for council members who have been actively involved in the field of cardiovascular disease (CVD) epidemiology or CVD prevention for at least five years and who have made substantial contributions to the field. Fellowship criteria include publishing in peer-reviewed journals in CVD epidemiology or prevention, participation and leadership in American Heart Association national or local activities, and clinical or community service in CVD epidemiology or prevention OR teaching in the field of CVD epidemiology or prevention.

Benefits of Fellowship include

• Council newsletter and other mailings relevant to the council’s affairs.
• Reduced registration fee to the AHA Scientific Sessions, Annual Conference on CVD Epidemiology and Prevention, and other AHA-sponsored conferences.
• Eligibility to serve in leadership roles and on council committees. (Associate Fellows are not eligible for election to office.)

For more information about applying for Fellowship in AHA Epi Council, go to the Council of Epidemiology and Prevention Web site: http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=1247 and click on Fellowships (left side of Web page); page down and click on Criteria, Instruction, and Application.