Letter from the Spring Program Committee Chair
Mary Cushman, MD, MSc

The 46th Annual Conference on Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology and Prevention, in association with the Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism, will be held from March 2–5, 2006 in Phoenix, Ariz., and promises to be a great success! We received many high-quality abstracts, which will be presented orally or in poster format, in addition to these invited sessions:

- The Richard D. Remington Methodology Lecture, presented by Ralph D’Agostino Sr., PhD, of Boston University. The title is “Developments in Survival Analysis Techniques in Response to Cardiovascular Disease Prediction — A Personal and Non-Personal History.”
- A debate, organized by the American Society for Preventive Cardiology, entitled “Should All Women Over 65 Years of Age Take an Aspirin Daily for Stroke Prevention?” Speakers are Julie Buring, ScD, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and Judith Hsia, MD, George Washington University.
- Our “Translational Lecture” series will include a presentation by Barbara Howard, PhD, of MedStar Research Institute, entitled “Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in American Indian Communities: Lessons on Prediction and Prevention,” and a presentation by JoAnn Manson, MD, Dr.PH, of Harvard University, entitled “Low-Fat Dietary Pattern and Cardiovascular Disease: Lessons from the Women’s Health Initiative.”
- The Sunday Morning Program entitled “Cardiovascular Disease in American Indians and Alaska Natives” will include invited speakers discussing subclinical atherosclerosis and dietary, behavioral, and classical risk factors, with emphasis on genetics of cardiovascular risk factors. Presentations will review the science of translating epidemiology and clinical trial results into practice in these special populations.

We will present the competitive council awards:

- The Jeremiah and Rose Stamler Research Award for New Investigators
- The Sandra Daugherty Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Disease and Hypertension Epidemiology
- The Trudy Bush Fellowship for CVD Research in Women’s Health
- The Roger R. Williams Memorial Award for Genetic Epidemiology and the Prevention and Treatment of Atherosclerosis

Our annual council reception and dinner promises to be a great time! We hope you’ll join us for plenty of fun!

For details, visit the conference Web site at my.americanheart.org (click on Conferences and Education tab and follow the link to the 46th Annual Conference) or go directly to: http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3031496

Highlights from Scientific Sessions 2005
Congratulations to those who participated in the Scientific Sessions 2005, especially to the finalists and winner of the Elizabeth Barrett-Connor Research Award. This award recognized excellence by an investigator in training. Crag Lee, PharmD, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, was the winner of this highly esteemed award. The title of the paper was “Genetic Variation in Soluble Epoxide Hydrolase (EPHX2) and Risk of Coronary Heart Disease: an Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) Study.” The finalists are Jeffrey Berger, MD, M.S., Duke University; Paul Chan, MD, M.Sc., University of Michigan Medical Center; Anna Svatikova, PhD, Mayo Clinic and Foundation; and Elizabeth Selvin, PhD, MPH, Johns Hopkins University.

Two additional notable awards presented at Scientific Sessions 2005:

Population Research Prize. 2005 is the inaugural year for this award, and it recognizes and rewards an individual who is making outstanding contributions to the advancement of cardiovascular science and who currently heads an outstanding cardiovascular population research laboratory. Dr. Robert Eckel, AHA president, presented the first award to Shiriki Kumanyika, PhD, MPH, FAHA, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pa.

Distinguished Achievement Award. This award is presented to a Council member who has made major contributions to the affairs of a Scientific Council over a continuing period of time and substantial professional contributions to the field. Dr. Lori Mosca, EPIP Council chair, presented the 2005 Distinguished Achievement award to Russell V. Luepker, MD, MS, professor at the University of Minnesota (UMN) School of Public Health in Minneapolis, Minn.
The 31st Ten-Day Seminar on the Epidemiology and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease was held at Tahoe City, Calif, from Sunday, 24 July, through Friday, 5 August 2005.

The 29 participants represented 14 states and one Canadian province. A total of 819 participants have now had the benefit of this unique postgraduate educational program. Minority participation continued to be substantial, with special support from the Chronic Disease Directors and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for members of under-represented ethnic groups; 10 of the 29 participants were members of ethnic minority groups, and 12 of the 29 participants were women.

Fellows participated in a series of lectures and small-group discussions on research methods, epidemiology and prevention of cardiovascular disease. The highlight of the experience was the study design exercise focused on whether neighborhood availability of fruits and vegetables are associated with risk of cardiovascular disease.

The 31st Seminar included as new faculty Dr. Cheryl Anderson, who presented a session on Diet and Cardiovascular Disease; Dr. Alain Bertoni, who presented sessions on Bias and on Individual Approaches to Prevention; and Dr. Barb Riley, who presented a session on Population Approaches to Prevention.

The 32nd Seminar will be held July 23–August 4, 2006, and planning is in progress. Information and application material are located on the Web at http://www.americanheart.org/conferences

To get more information, write to: David C. Goff Jr, MD, PhD, Seminar Director, Council on Epidemiology and Prevention, c/o Cindy MacDonough, American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75231.

Participants and faculty from the 31st Seminar on the Epidemiology and Prevention of CVD.

The 32nd Ten-Day Seminar on the Epidemiology and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease
July 23–August 4, 2006 • Tahoe City, Calif.

Offered by the Council on Epidemiology and Prevention of the American Heart Association and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The primary goal of the Seminar is to provide an intensive introduction to the epidemiology and prevention of major cardiovascular diseases for qualified health professionals planning careers in research, teaching or practice in this area.

Seminar Objectives:
• To acquire understanding of the nature of cardiovascular diseases, especially coronary heart disease and stroke, and epidemiologic approaches to their investigation.
• To develop the ability to critically evaluate epidemiologic evidence concerning the causation and prevention of cardiovascular diseases through review and discussion of selected published reports.
• To apply several of the major epidemiologic approaches to the investigation of a current research question, through collaborative development and presentation of a research proposal on an assigned topic.
• To learn to recognize and evaluate the epidemiologic basis for policy and practice in cardiovascular disease prevention.

Faculty in epidemiology, preventive cardiology and biostatistics will present a series of discussions, lectures and laboratory and tutorial sessions designed to illustrate basic principles and their application, with extensive group participation. Up to 20 faculty members and 30 selected candidates will participate in the Seminar.

Candidates must ordinarily be at the postdoctoral level with some residency training or its equivalent. Consideration for selection requires:
1. A completed and signed application form.
2. A letter of nomination from a sponsor well acquainted with the candidate’s experience and interest. Sponsor must be from the candidate’s institution and indicate the availability of financial support for travel and accommodations.
3. A letter prepared by the candidate indicating the basis for his or her interest in the Seminar.
4. The candidate’s curriculum vitae.

The deadline for receipt of the above materials is Wednesday, March 22, 2006.

For more information contact:
David C. Goff Jr, MD, PhD, Seminar Director
c/o Cindy MacDonough
32nd Ten-Day Seminar
American Heart Association
7272 Greenville Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75231-4596
Telephone: 214-706-1441
Fax: 214-373-3406
E-mail: cindy.macdonough@heart.org