From the Editor
Hossein Ardehali, MD, PhD

On behalf of the Basic Cardiovascular Science Council, I would like to express our appreciation to Tish Murphy for her remarkable work as newsletter editor over the past two years. I have taken over as the newsletter editor for the BCVS Council. Please e-mail me your suggestions for newsletter articles at h-ardehali@northwestern.edu. There are other changes to the BCVS Council, which will be highlighted in the next issue.

Marcus Award Finalists
Competition to be held Sunday, Nov. 9, 5:15–6:30 p.m.

Rabea Asleh, Technion Israel Institution of Technology, “Targeting HDL Quality Rather than Quantity: Providing the Mechanistic Rationale for the Pharmacogenomic Interaction between the Haptoglobin Genotype and Vitamin E on Cardiovascular Disease in Individuals with Diabetes Mellitus”

Konstantinos Hatzistergos, University of Miami, “Allogeneic Mesenchymal Stem Cells in Cellular Cardiomyoplasty: Mechanisms of Cardiac Repair”

Yutaka Matsui, Hokkaido University, “Large Tumor Suppressor 2, a Downstream Target of Mammalian Sterile 20 Like Kinase 1, is an Endogenous Regulator of Myocyte Size and Apoptosis in the Heart”

Atsuhiko Naito, Chiba University, “Promotion of Chip-mediated P53 Degradation Protects the Heart from Ischemic Injury”

Noriyuki Ouchi, Boston University, “Follistatin-like 1 is a Novel Secreted Muscle Protein that Confers Cardiovascular Protection”

Katz Award Finalists
Competition to be held Sunday, Nov. 9, 3:45–5:00 p.m.

Yoshihiro Asano, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, “Paradigm Shift to Epigenetic Memory for the Pathological Understanding of Chronic Heart Failure”

Masaki Ieda, University of California, San Francisco, “Cardiac Fibroblasts Regulate Myocardial Proliferation and Ventricular Formation through /H9252 1 Integrin Signaling”

Raffaella Lombardi, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, “Genetic Fate Mapping Identifies Second Heart Field Epicardial Progenitor Cells as a Source of Adipocytes in Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy”

Eva Van Rooij, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, “Myosin Genes Encode a Network of Micrornas that Control Myosin Expression and Myofiber Identity”

Shinsuke Yuasa, Keio University, “Inhibition of Cardiac Myocyte Apoptosis By Zac1, an Essential Transcription Factor for Cardiac Morphogenesis”
Basic Cardiovascular Science Council awards and lectures at Scientific Sessions

Daniel Kelly, MD, FAHA, Lewin Professor and Chief of Cardiovascular Division at Washington University will receive the BCVS Distinguished Achievement Award. This award is meant to recognize individuals who have made major contributions to the Affairs of a Scientific Council over a continued period of time and who have made substantial professional contributions to the field represented by the Council.

The BCVS Thomas Smith Memorial Lecture will be presented Monday, Nov. 10, 2:00 p.m. in Rm. 271–273 of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center by Dr. Jeffrey Molkentin of Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. The presentation is entitled: “PKCα as a Novel Therapeutic Target for Treating Heart Failure.”

Dr. David Guterman of Medical College of Wisconsin will present the BCVS George E. Brown Memorial Lecture Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2:00 p.m. in Rm. 271–273 of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The presentation is entitled: “Flow-induced Vasodilation in the Human Heart: Unique Endothelial Mechanisms and Clinical Insights.”

BCVS Council Dinner

This year’s Council Dinner will be held Tuesday, Nov. 11 at the Foundry in New Orleans at 7 p.m. The address is 333 St. Joseph Street, New Orleans, La. 70130. The winners of both the Katz and Marcus awards will be announced at the Council Dinner. Make sure you purchase your tickets early since they generally sell out quickly. Don’t miss this great opportunity to meet your colleagues from the BCVS Council.

2009 BCVS Conference


Annual Basic Cardiovascular Sciences Summer Conference Highlights

The 2008 Annual BCVS Summer Conference, “Heart Failure: Molecular Mechanisms and Therapeutic Targets,” was held July 28–31 in Keystone, Colo. The meeting organizers were Drs. Kenneth Walsh, Daniel P. Kelly, Issei Komuro and Bart Staels. The finalists for the Outstanding Early Career Investigator Award were:

Sharlene M. Day, University of Michigan, “Ubiquitin Proteasome Dysfunction in Human Cardiomyopathies”

Guo-Chang Fan, University of Cincinnati, “MicroRNA230 Regulates Ischemia/Reperfusion-Induced Cardiomyocyte Death and Apoptosis by Targeting Hsp20”

Asa B. Gustafsson, San Diego State University, “Juvenile Anthracycline Treatment Contributes to Heart Failure in Adulthood by Impairing Vascularization and Cardiac Stem Cell Function”

Matoaki Sano, Keio University School of Medicine, “Inherent Capacity of the Heart to Augment Antioxidant Defense via Activation of Amino Acid Metabolism as a Hormetic Response to Aldehydes”

Dr. Sharlene Day was selected as the winner of the competition.

Cardiovascular Outreach Award recipients were Giselle C. Melendez, Sherise Mitchell and Cynthia N. Perry-Garza.

Twenty attendees were awarded New Investigator Travel Awards. The recipients are: Reza Ardehali, Kalyani G. Bharadwaj, Konstantinos Drosatos, Chiao P. Hsu, James J. Kohler, Shiori Kyoi, Shigeki Miyamoto, R. Kannan Mutharasam, Rajasekaran Namakkal Soorappan, Florentina Pluteanu, Rebecca L. Scotland, Nobutake Shimojo, Huabo Su, Emily J. Tsai, Yuehui Wang, Bambang Widyantoro, Changhoon Woo, Xin Xu, Alice E. Zemljic-Harpf.