I would like to take this opportunity to acquaint CVRI Council members with the exciting, upcoming International Congress on Cardiovascular Imaging at Scientific Sessions 2008 in New Orleans. The mission of the congress is to foster international collaboration in cardiovascular research, clinical care and education. Designed to run concurrently with Scientific Sessions, the congress will feature presentations and discussions by international experts. One program will feature the latest advances in noninvasive cardiovascular imaging, and will be presented by internationally renowned investigators. The congress will run from Saturday, Nov. 11 through Wednesday, Nov. 12.

Topics to be discussed are: the current status of molecular imaging, cell and gene therapy, molecular imaging targets in LV modeling, phenotyping of the failing heart by MRI, plaque imaging, and ultrasound imaging of angiogenesis. Also to be covered are clinical issues including current techniques for imaging acute chest pain, congenital heart disease, imaging to document reversal of atherosclerosis, controversies in cardiovascular imaging, and new technology including echocardiography, CT and MR. The CVRI Program Committee under the leadership Dr. Pamela Woodard is to be lauded for their role in the development of this comprehensive upcoming program.

International Congress on Imaging and CVD

The International Congress on Cardiovascular Imaging will be held concurrently with Scientific Sessions and will feature the most internationally renowned investigators in the field discussing and presenting the latest advances in noninvasive cardiac imaging. Focus topics include:

- Imaging in the Management of Acute Chest Pain
- Dangers of Cardiac Imaging
- Imaging of the Congenital Heart Disease Patient
- Molecular Imaging of Cardiovascular Disease
- Imaging of Plaque Vulnerability and Atherosclerosis
- New Technology in Echocardiography

Fellows in Training and Early Career Program

The Fellows in Training and Early Career Program will take place Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center and includes extended programming and an attendee reception.

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 will present their research in an oral abstract session at Scientific Sessions 2008. The competition will take place Sunday, Nov. 9 at 3:45 p.m. in La Louisiane AB of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.
This year’s finalists are:

**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

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

**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

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**Charles T. Dotter Memorial Lecture**

The lecture was 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 pioneered the development of angioplasty and other interventional cardiovascular procedures.

This year’s presenter is Geoffrey Rubin, MD, professor of radiology at Stanford University School of Medicine. The title of this year’s lecture is “More Surprises from the Healthy Donut.” The lecture will take place Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 2:00 p.m. in Rm. 208–210 of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

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**CVRI Annual Reception, Awards Presentation and Annual Business Meeting**

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7:00 p.m.
Hilton N.O. Riverside, Grand Salons

**Recognition of**

- AHA Distinguished Achievement Awardee: Barry Katzen, Miami, Fla.
- Melvin Judkins Young Investigator Awardee

For more information regarding Scientific Sessions 2008, please visit scientificsessions.org.