

CV network

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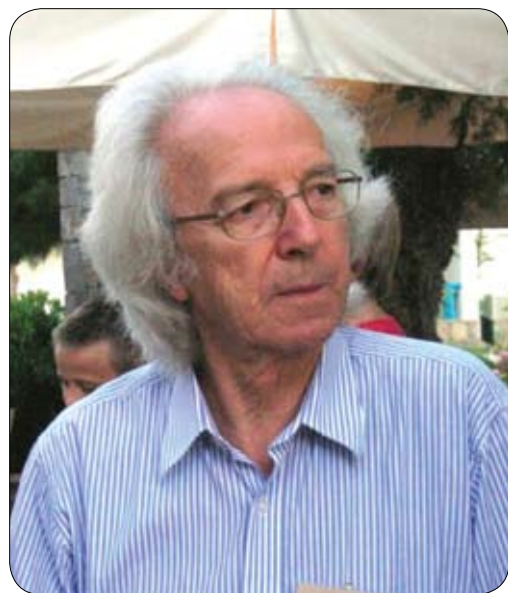
M E D A L O F M E R I T

On behalf of President Sir Magdi Yacoub, the Academy is honoured to announce our recipients for 2009 of the Academy's highest honour **The Medal of Merit for Outstanding Achievements in Cardiovascular Education & Research** for:

- Dr. Ernesto Carafoli
- Dr. Eric Olson

Details of their distinguished careers follow:

Ernesto Carafoli



Ernesto Carafoli was born in 1932, in Italy. He gained his M.D. in 1957 at the University of Modena, Italy; "Abilitation" (Libera Docenza) in General Pathology (1965) and in Biochemistry (1968); Fogarty International Post-doctoral Fellow in the Dept. of Physiological Chemistry of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA (1963-1965); Visiting Lecturer in the same department 1968-1969; Assistant Professor of General Pathology in the University of Modena School of Medicine, Italy (1959-1965); Associate Professor of General Pathology at the same school (1965-1972); Professor of General Pathology, University of Padova School of Medicine (Italy) (1973); Professor of Biochemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) (Zurich, Switzerland), (1973 to 1998); Chairman of the Dept. of Biochemistry of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in 1978 and 1987-1991; Professor of Biochemistry, University of Padova, School of Medicine, Italy (since 1990). From 1971-1991 Visiting Professor for various periods in several Italian Universities, at the University of Nairobi (Kenya), at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma of Mexico, Mexico City (Mexico), at the Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas (Venezuela), and at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland (OH, USA). He was Scientific Director of the Venetian Institute of Molecular Medicine (Padova, Italy), (2000-2005). He has received numerous awards and honours including Professor Honoris Causa, Institute of Biological Investigations Clemente Estable, Montevideo, Uruguay, 2005; "Grande Ufficiale" of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy, 2006; and Marcelline Prize (Polish Academy of Sciences), 2010

Dr. Carafoli has been a member of a dozen professional Societies, including the Swiss Biochemical Society, the Biochemical Society, the American Society for Cell Biology, the American Society of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Biology (Honorary Member), the Society of General Physiology, the Biophysical Society, the Italian Society of Biochemistry. He has been co-organizer of about 40 International Congresses and Symposia, and of about 25 Advanced Courses, (held in a dozen countries on behalf of FEBS, ICRO/UNESCO, the Gulbenkian Foundation and WHO). He has delivered lectures at about 300 International Congresses, Symposia, Colloquia. Communications (or posters) at about 200 International Congresses, Symposia, Colloquia and participated in some 500 seminars at universities and other research institutions. He has written over 500 articles in refereed journals on topics of muscle biochemistry, membrane biochemistry, mitochondrial bioenergetics, membrane transport of ions (calcium specially by pumps) regulation of calcium metabolism and over 100 book chapters and 70 invited review articles on the related topics.

Eric Olson



Eric Olson is professor and chair of the Department of Molecular Biology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where he also is the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair, the Annie and Willie Nelson Professor, and the Pogue Distinguished Chair in Research on Cardiac Birth Defects.

Eric Olson has dedicated his career to deciphering the mechanisms that control muscle gene regulation and development. He and his colleagues discovered key transcription factors and mechanisms responsible for heart development and congenital heart disease. His discoveries include the MEF2 transcription factor, which regulates differentiation of all muscle cell types; myocardin, a master switch for cardiovascular muscle cell fate; Homeodomain-only protein (Hop), a regulator of cardiomyocyte proliferation; and Hand1 and Hand2, which orchestrate the formation of the cardiac chambers. Equally important is the discovery by Olson that developmental pathways controlled by myocardial transcription factors and histone deacetylases are responsible for pathological hypertrophy and heart failure in adulthood. Most recently, Olson discovered a cohort of microRNAs that control proliferation, differentiation and survival of cardiac muscle cells, maturation of the cardiac chambers, and blood vessel formation. Especially intriguing is the discovery of a new function for myosin heavy chain genes, revealing that they encode microRNAs within their introns, which govern cardiac contractility and stress-responsiveness of the heart. Olson's discoveries at the interface of basic science and medicine have profoundly influenced our understanding of the development and dysfunction of the cardiovascular system, providing new concepts in the quest for cardiovascular therapeutics.

Dr. Olson grew up in North Carolina where he attended Wake Forest University, receiving a B.A. in Chemistry and Biology in 1977, a Ph.D. in Biochemistry in 1981, and an honorary doctorate in 2003. After postdoctoral training at Washington University School of Medicine, he joined the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in 1984 and became Professor and Chairman in 1991. In 1995, he founded the Department of Molecular Biology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Dr. Olson's honors include the Basic Research Prize, the Founding Distinguished Scientist Award, and the Research Achievement Award from the American Heart Association, the Pasarow Medical Research Award in Cardiovascular Disease, the Gill Heart Institute Award, the Lucian Award for Research in Cardiovascular Disease, the Outstanding Investigator Award from the International Society for Heart Research, and the Pollin Prize for Lifetime Contributions to Pediatric Research. In 2009, the Institut de France and French Academy of Science awarded Dr. Olson the Fondation Lefoulon-Delalande Grand Prize, considered the largest international award in cardiovascular medicine. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and its Institute of Medicine. Dr. Olson is a dedicated mentor and is most proud of his students and postdoctoral fellows who are emerging as the next generation of leaders in cardiovascular medicine. He has over 500 publications.

Eric Olson serves on numerous advisory committees and editorial boards. He was Editor-in-Chief of Developmental Biology from 1995-2005 and currently serves on the editorial boards of The Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, U.S.A., Circulation, Circulation Research, Developmental Cell, Science, The Journal of Cell Biology, and other journals. He is a member of the Scientific Review Board of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and on the Board of Trustees of the Society for Developmental Biology.

Eric Olson was co-founder and scientific advisor of Myogen, Inc., a biotechnology company focusing on therapies for heart muscle disease, which was acquired by Gilead Pharmaceuticals in 2006. In 2007, he co-founded Miragen Therapeutics, a biotechnology company focusing on microRNAs as therapeutics for cardiovascular disease.

In his spare time, Eric Olson plays guitar and harmonica with The Transactivators, a rock band inspired by the Texas icon, Willie Nelson, who created the Professorship that Olson holds.



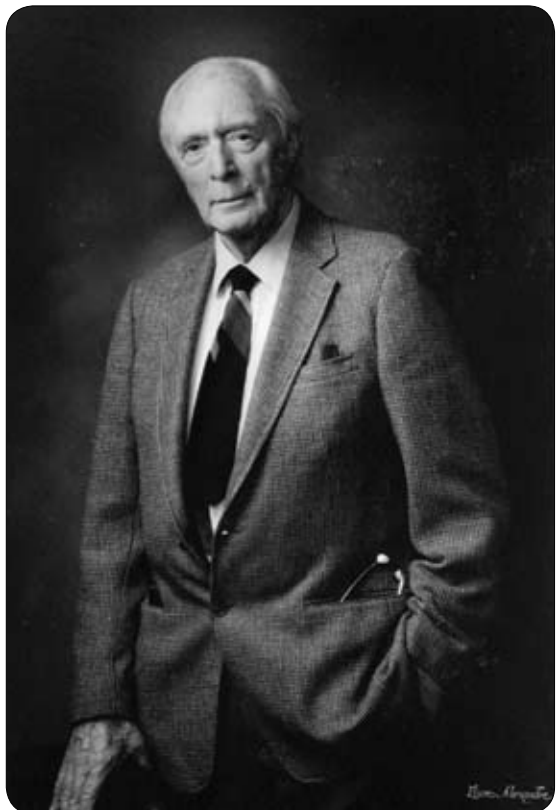
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Editor's Note: Not only was Dr. Richard Bing one of the founders of IACS but he was the recipient in 2001 with Dr. Michael DeBakey of the first of the Academy's most prestigious Medals of Merit. Dr. Bing was the first president of the International Study Group for Research in Cardiac Metabolism 1969 – 1973. Then he was elected as Lifetime President of that organization which became the International Society for Heart Research. From 1972, as the I S H R Secretary General and subsequently as President, Dr. Naranjan Dhalla had the unique pleasure of working with Dr. Bing. Dr. Dhalla recalls that experience with delight and acknowledges Dr. Bing's immense contribution to his personal success and the development of I S H R. The following was published online.

Founding Fellow of IACS is now 100!



While 2009 marked the end of the first decade of the 21st century, it also was the start of Richard J. Bing's second century. On October 12, Richard J. Bing, an APS member since 1942, celebrated his 100th birthday and his scientific colleagues acknowledged the milestone in editorials published in several journals. Both Tsung O. Cheng (1) and Heinrich Taegtmeyer (2) and Willis Hurst published editorials recognizing the many accomplishments of Dr. Bing's career. In addition, a movie documentary was chosen to be aired at the Sundance Film Festival. It is still available on YouTube.com <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EewKOQhdvHM>

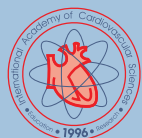
Scientifically, Richard Bing has published over 500 peer reviewed articles on topics ranging from cardiac metabolism in congestive heart failure to echocardiographic studies of the posterior left ventricular wall in experimental myocardial infarction. He was the first to define the physiology of congenital heart disease by threading a catheter into the heart.

In the editorials, Richard Bing was described as a "Renaissance Man," "A Man for All Seasons," and a "Lion in Winter," because of the diversity of his interests and the enormity of his contributions to our understanding of science and art. In addition to his scientific contributions, Richard Bing has written more than 200 compositions of music including the Missa (Chanted Mass) which was performed in the Cathedral of Saint Stefans in Vienna, Austria on October 30, 1993. In addition to music, Bing has also written a number of non-medical books including a novel and several short stories.

Richard Bing resides in California and is an emeritus member of the Huntington Medical Research institute in Pasadena. As an elder statesman in matters of cardiovascular research, he remains an active observer and commentator on the world around him. Happy Birthday Richard Bing! The Society joins with others to acknowledge your many contributions to our science and to medical practice

1. Cheng, T. O. Happy 100th Birthday to Dr. Richard John Bing, Int J Cardiol 137(2): 87-101, 2009.

2. Taegtmeyer, H. Richard Bing at 100: Reflections on a Lion in Winter. J Mol Cell Cardiol 47(5): 562-4, 2009.



4th Congress of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences

4th World Congress to be held in India in Vadodara on February 1-3 and Ahmedabad on February 4-6, 2011

We may have total participation of more than 1,500 delegates to the Conference.

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International Symposium on Advances in Cardiovascular Research: From Genes and Molecules to Clinical Applications, Smolenice, Slovakia, June 6-9, 2010

by Tanya Ravingerova, Bratislava, Slovakia

The Congress Center of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Smolenice hosted the International Symposium organized by the Institute for Heart Research Slovak Academy of Sciences in collaboration with the Slovak Society of Cardiology, Slovak Physiological Society, Slovak League Heart to Heart and the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences in Winnipeg on the occasion of the 70th Birthday of Jan Slezak as a tribute to his lifetime scientific achievements. The meeting was held under the patronage of the Prime Minister of Slovakia and under the auspices of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences; European Academy of Sciences and Arts; and the WHO.

The venue of the meeting, Smolenice Castle located in the village of Smolenice on the slopes of the Small Carpathian Mountains, provided a unique opportunity to gather basic scientists and clinicians working in the field of cardiovascular research and created an exciting, enjoyable and friendly atmosphere for an exchange of new ideas and stimulating discussions,

During the Opening Ceremony, after the welcome greetings presented by the Vice-Presidents of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Dr. Albert Brier and Dr. Daniela Jezova; and Dr. Grant Pierce representing the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. The Awards of the Slovak Academy of Sciences were presented to Dr. Grant Pierce (Winnipeg, Canada) who received the Gold Medal of Jan Jessenius in Medical Sciences and to Dr. Frank Kolar (Prague, Czech Republic) who was honoured with the Plaque of Merit of SAS.



Dr. Brier (Vice-President of SAS) presented Plaque of Merit to Dr. Kolar (R)



Dr. Pierce presented IACS Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Sciences, Medicine and Surgery to Dr. Ziegelhoffer

The “Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Sciences, Medicine and Surgery” of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences was granted to Attila Ziegelhoffer (Bratislava, Slovakia).

The scientific program covering different aspects of cardiovascular research consisted of 22 oral and 20 poster presentations. Six sessions were chaired by distinguished scientists including Grant Pierce, Attila Ziegelhoffer, Dennis McNamara, Boja Ostadal, Ashok Srivastava, Ian Kyselovic and Tanya Ravingerova.

More than 100 participants, top representatives of the scientific institutions and universities from the whole of Slovakia including the Past and Present Presidents of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and the members of its Presidium, joined the Symposium on June 7th and took part

in the afternoon session dedicated to Dr. Slezak’s jubilee. At the beginning of the session, Dr. Slezak was honoured with the “Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Medicine” of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences conferred by Dr. Pierce. The session started with a greeting speech by the Charge d’Affairs of the Canadian Embassy in Slovakia. It was followed by unique talks given by Dr. Slezak’s colleagues from the Institute for Heart Research who spoke about different periods of Dr. Slezak’s scientific life. Special talks were also given by Dr. Pierce on behalf of Dr. Naranjan Dhalla, by Dr. Jan Styk and the Past President of SAS, Dr. Stefan Luby. Later on, the participants enjoyed a beautiful garden party in the courtyard of the Castle and the performance of a country style band.

On the last evening, the social program included the Farewell Dinner, part of which was wine-tasting of Slovakian wines; national dances and songs.

The organizers thank all of the active participants and valuable contributions to the high quality of the meeting.



Dr. Slezak was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Medicine of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences conferred by Dr. Pierce.

Jan Slezak celebrated his 70th Birthday

by Tanya Ravingerova, Bratislava, Slovakia



Professor Jan Slezak, MD, DSc., D.h.c., a distinguished scientist and cardiologist from Slovakia, was born in Bratislava on May 24, 1940 and recently celebrated his seventieth birthday. After his graduation at the Faculty of Medicine of the Comenius University in Bratislava in 1963, he joined the research team and continued his postgraduate education at the Institute of Experimental Surgery Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) that was later transformed into the Institute for Heart Research (IHR) SAS. He got his PhD degree in 1968 and established a laboratory and later on a Department of Electron Microscopy and Histochemistry of the IHR SAS which he has been chairing for many years. The scientific career of professor Jan Slezak, known as "Honzo" to his colleagues and friends, has been always very closely connected with the institute where he has been appointed a deputy director in 1976 and a director of the IHR in 1988. He remained in this position until 1998 when he was elected a member of the Presidium of SAS and served as the First Vice-President of SAS until June 2009.

In addition to his important position in the research institutions, Prof. Slezak was always involved in teaching at the university and in 1986 he got the highest scientific DSc. degree in the subject of Anatomy and Morphology. He has been very active for more than 40 years teaching anatomy and histology and physiology and pathophysiology at the Faculty of Medicine of the Comenius University in Bratislava where he was appointed an Assistant Professor in 1990 and a Full Professor of Normal and Pathological Physiology in 1996. In 2008 he was awarded the degree of D.h.c. at the University of Zilina, Slovakia.

In addition to teaching numerous pre-graduate students, he has been a mentor and supervisor of 16 PhD students who became reputable and recognized scientists.

The main area of his research interests has been focused on the topics of experimental cardiology and functional morphology, with particular regards to problematics of myocardial ischemia, cardiac heterogeneity and adaptability and, in particular, to subcellular mechanisms of myocardial adaptation and remodeling. He has been deeply involved in the studies investigating the role of reactive oxygen species in the mechanisms of cardiac injury and some aspects of cardioprotective phenomena, e.g., ischemic preconditioning and its second window.

During his life-long scientific career he has published more than 550 peer-reviewed papers, 8 scientific books and 5 text-books with over 700 quotations. He has delivered many invited lectures at national and international conferences, universities and institutions, during his numerous study stays abroad (e.g., in Moscow, Leningrad, New York, Los Angeles, Winnipeg, Berlin, Bad Nauheim, Rotterdam, etc.).

He is a member of several scientific boards of the research institutions and universities and a member of Editorial Boards of 8 journals.

For many years he has served as a Council member of the International Society for Heart Research-European Section and is currently a Fellow of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences and a member of the Board of Directors. He has been honored with numerous important awards and distinctions from the scientific societies in recognition of his achievements and services. A few of his highest distinctions are include:

- Gold Medals of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and the Slovak Medical association,
- Gold Plaques of the Slovak Society of Cardiology, Slovak Physiological Society and Faculty of Medicine of the Comenius University,
- First Prize of the Academy of Education for the scientific and popularization activity,
- The Scientist of the Year award granted by the Journalist Studio,
- The personality of the SAS,
- one of the most prestigious national awards – Crystal Wing,
- the State Order of Merit granted by the President of Slovakia: State Order of Merit of Ludovit Stur I. category,

- Medal of Merit from the Manitoba University, Winnipeg, Canada,
- Honorary citizenship of the city of Winnipeg, Canada,
- Norman Alpert Award for established investigators in cardiovascular scientists.

Besides his scientific and professional activities, "Honzo" Slezak has been actively participating in the organization of cardiovascular research and education on both national and international levels. Together with the colleagues from the Czech Republic he founded and chaired for many years a very active Slovak Histochemical Society. In addition, he was one of the founding members of the Working Group - Commission of Experimental Cardiology which has been organizing annual scientific meetings of the Czech and Slovak scientists and clinicians since 1972. He is currently a member of 2 Academical Societies in Slovakia and 3 Academies abroad.

In 1991, he established the Slovak League for Prevention and Treatment of Cardiovascular Diseases - Heart to Heart which has been actively participating also in the international activities aimed at prevention of cardiovascular diseases and popularization of the scientific achievements in this area. Up till now he has been serving as the President of the League.

As one of the main organizers, "Honzo" has been actively participating as a president or as a honorary president in the organization of more than 20 national and international scientific conferences and symposia, both in Slovakia and abroad.

He is still a very active staff member of the Institute for Heart Research where he continues his work as a principal investigator being actively involved in numerous scientific projects. His main goal is to ensure more close relationships between the clinical and experimental cardiologists for the benefit of the patients. One of his highest priorities is also to promote students and young scientists and to support their professional growth.

Friends know "Honzo" Slezak as a vivid, tireless and full of energy person. Apart from busy professional life, "Honzo" always finds time for other activities and interesting hobbies, e.g., bee-keeping. He also enjoys nature and gardening, taking care of his dog, and last but not least, he is fond of fine arts and good music which are the best source of his relaxation.

His collaborators at the Institute for Heart Research (to whom I had a privilege to belong for many years being one of his PhD student as well) always enjoyed his active approach towards achievement of the goals and appreciated a friendly and creative atmosphere established by "Honzo" promoting the progress in the field of cardiovascular research.

Grant Pierce receives Slovak honour

by Bill Peters, Winnipeg, Canada



Congratulations to Dr. Grant N. Pierce, St. Boniface Hospital Executive Director of Research, on receiving the highest award from the Slovak Academy of Sciences at a recent meeting in Smolenice, Slovakia - the Jan Jessenius Gold Medal in Medical Sciences - in recognition of outstanding international achievement in the field of medical research. The award was presented in June by the President of the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

The Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) is the main scientific and research institution in Slovakia fostering basic and strategic basic research. Its primary mission is to acquire new knowledge of nature, society and technology, specifically targeted at ensuring scientific basis for the advancement in Slovakia. The SAS consists of 69 scientific organizations and publishes 57 scientific and professional journals. More than 40 scientific and scholarly societies, which associate scientists and scholars from various disciplines, are affiliated with SAS.

Dr. Grant Pierce has published more than 200 manuscripts that have attracted more than 4,000 citations. His past work focused on the identification of a cardiomyopathy in diabetes and on Na^+/H^+ exchange as an important mechanism responsible for ischemic heart disease. He is currently interested in nuclear protein import as a mechanism for cell growth in the cardiovascular system, on the relationship of infection and inflammation with atherosclerosis, and on the potential for nutraceuticals and functional foods to alter cardiovascular disease. He is the Executive Director of Research at St. Boniface General Hospital and Co-Editor of the Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology.



CINI Conference on Cardiovascular Health

by Arun Chockalingam, Bethesda, USA and Arun Garg, Vancouver, Canada

The Canada India Network Initiative (CINI) was a novel concept to connect likeminded people from Canada and India to work on focused projects so as to bring benefits to both countries at the national level. There is a very large Diaspora of people from India who migrated to Canada and settled. As a first project, CINI ventured on Cardiovascular Health.



Arun Chockalingam (L) and Arun Garg (R) presented CINI Lifetime Achievement Award to Naranjan Dhalla

India and Globalization

While India is evolving to be an economic super power through globalization, we are beginning to see a number of good effects as well as not so good effects. The population in India is now living longer like most other developed countries. Over the past 20 years India is recording population dynamics reaching an average life expectancy of 64.7 years (UN Statistics 2010), a gain of about 15 years over the past two decades. Average life expectancy of males is 63.2 years while the women live longer to 66.4 years. India has eradicated small pox and controlled much of the infectious diseases which caused early mortality some 20 years ago. The consequence is many of the Indians today face chronic non-communicable diseases such as heart diseases, stroke, diabetes and cancer. Notably the cardiovascular diseases (heart disease, stroke and diabetes) are highly prevalent in today's India. The consequence is very high burden on the individual victims, their family, community they belong to and the nation as a whole. Unfortunately, many of the people

experience heart attack at a much younger age, as low as 30. The World Health Organization predicts that India will be the leading country for cardiovascular diseases by 2020 with huge death and disability tolls.

When we look at the Indians living in Canada, as well as other parts of the world where they migrated, the Indians have a much higher prevalence of cardiovascular deaths and disabilities compared to the local populations.

Purpose and Design of CVH 2010 Conference

We convened the conference to look at the issues critically why the Indians both in India as well as their adopted land, in this case in Canada, have a higher incidence and prevalence of cardiovascular diseases. Cardiovascular diseases are very complex. There is no single reason why the disease manifests. Therefore, we designed the questions to review this problem from multiple angles - social, clinical, economical, as well as political. To achieve our objective, we created eight different panels and invited experts from the respective disciplines to work together, for more than 6 months prior to the conference. These panels included: individuals at risk (**clinical care**); population at risk to assess the social determinants of health such as education, income, employment, living conditions, transportation, diet and nutrition (**population health**); how the social conditions are affected through political interventions and policy changes (**social policy**); infrastructure and lack of infrastructure, agricultural policy affecting the health of people - for example tobacco subsidies and increasing consumption of cigarettes (**public health policy**); what kind of research is needed to address this public health menace and how we can translate the knowledge gained over a period of time both from the Western world as well as current knowledge from India (**research**); how to maximize the technological advances through further collaboration and bringing out low cost diagnostics (**biotechnology**); sustainability and capacity building through educational collaboration (**academic training**); and finally how can we become innovative in capacity building using modern technology (**e-learning**).

Conference Outcomes

Over 50 scientists and decision makers from India and an equal number from Canada were engaged over the past eight months to produce position papers on each of the eight topic areas prior to the conference. These 100 people were joined by another 100 invited thought leaders across Canada to further refine the questions, solutions and how to proceed further in the next 5 to 10 years. During the three days (June 20-22, 2010) we witnessed a ground swell commitment from all 200 participants to make a sincere contribution to address the growing epidemic of cardiovascular diseases both in India and Canada. As conference organizers, both my co-chair Dr. Arun Garg and I are immensely pleased with the outcomes of this effort leading to commitments from the governments of India, Canada, and British Columbia; scientists from Canada and India; research enterprises such as Indian Council of Medical Research and Canadian Institutes of Health Research, as well as the Government of India Ministry of Health's Division of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy); the academic institutions from both countries; and the nongovernmental agencies making solemn commitment to follow through the recommendations from each panel.

Panel Recommendations:

Clinical Care: (1.) Develop clinical practice guidelines (CPG) for the diagnosis and management of hypertension in South Asian populations in Canada and India, directed to health workers with special instruction for patients in appropriate languages. This panel identified needed resources as volunteer time-steering committee; travel; and production and printing of CPG. Members

of this panel agreed to volunteer to work together and complete this task within one year. (2.) Implement the APPROACH (Alberta Provincial PRoject for Outcome Assessment in Coronary Heart Disease) in at least four centres in India with high volume and high quality angiography. Proposed timeline is 2 years to full operation.

Population Health and Healthy Public Policy: The groups felt an overlap and combined their efforts to come up with four specific recommendations. (a) *Canada - India Collaboration to develop and/or review policies and strategies on Health Promotion*; (b) *Canada - India urban public health working group* to address nutritional transition through research and to develop national policy on nutrition; (c) *Joint youth initiative for leadership in health promotion* - to address youth obesity through policy, education, awareness and targeting tobacco policies and implementation. Lessons learnt from BC that can be implemented in India; and (d) *Comparative Population Based Policy Research*, comparing policies in Canada and India on trans-fat regulation and salt restriction.

Social Policy: (1) This panel identified that prevention and control of cardiovascular disease must be implemented throughout the *life course* of an individual. It recommended that this can be implemented through multisectoral, multi-faceted approach, involving government, private sector, NGOs, and civil society. (2) This panel also brought to light that there is over 7,000 years of knowledge in India through *traditional/indigenous healing practices* for wellness and integrated solutions. It is about time that the Western world begins to understand the age old wisdom through cooperation. The panel also recommended that the Indian scientists working in AYUSH also adopt the evidence based medicine and make every effort to have the concepts and methods accepted by the global community.

Research: Scientists from both CIHR and ICMR worked diligently to unravel the power of collaboration and to advance research through collaborative efforts. This panel came up with two research priorities on *Knowledge Generation*: (a) Use existing cohorts in India and diaspora in Canada to address CV risk from pathophysiology (e.g., adiposity changes and epigenetic programming) to environmental effects on populations, and potential interventions to increase resilience to CV and other chronic diseases; and (b) Innovative implementation of new technologies to improve quality, efficiency and cost of care - e.g. Biotechnology (lab on a chip), Polypill and novel Rx delivery system, and analysis of medical care processes for delegation, quality and cost control. Also arrived at three research priorities on *Knowledge Translation*: (a) application of diagnostic tools in populations, in an effective and cost-effective manner (with bioengineers/ health providers, etc.); (b) population screening programs for CV risk, linked to community health workers for follow-up and intervention; and (c) Implementation tools that are culturally sensitive and community specific, including public education, screening and intervention strategies of CV risk, and special at risk populations (i.e. women & children).

This panel also dwelled into two other areas of the CINI conference and made specific recommendations. One in the area of **Academic Training** through CIHR-NHLBI-ICMR collaboration as follows: Building research capacity for both training of researchers and facilitating knowledge exchange - Joint supervision between high and middle income countries; creating bilateral training opportunities; providing strong mentorship component - esp. training of future mentors; and developing core lab/infrastructure expertise for networked research.

Furthermore, this panel extended into areas of **Public Health Policy and Social Policy** which signals the commitment of both ICMR and CIHR. They outlined research strategies and enabling tools as follows: Develop (a) an inventory of existing research programs in India and Canada relevant to chronic diseases (with contacts of principal investigators to facilitate collaboration); (b) an inventory of best community engagement practices in risk reduction and chronic disease care models; and (c) strategies to engage decision makers to make appropriate policy decisions, including funding of research.

Biotechnology: This panel focused on screening and laboratory techniques for early identification of underlying pathology for cardiovascular diseases. They have made the following four recommendations: (a) Biomarker (Renal) validation in a south Asian population in India; (b) Biomarker discovery and validation for discrimination of systolic and diastolic heart failure; (c) Finding normal values and assessing clinical utility of risk markers (30-40 Risk Markers); and (d) Development of a low cost screening platform. This panel in addition to stating the recommendation (What?) also gave a recipe for each of the Whats (recommendations) by way of Why, How, When and Who.

Academic Training: This panel of academic leaders from Canada and India recognized that their work overlapped with **E-learning, Research and Biotechnology panels**; need to address the challenge of CVD prevention through public education; and there should be a focus on community based learning and community based research. They provide two specific recommendations as follows: (a) Canada and India should develop through workshops a portfolio of shared interests in community based learning and research related to chronic disease; (b) Based on the results of the workshops, develop partnerships that include a community based research component and are focused on the training of community health workers.

Innovation - e-Learning: This panel identified the opportunity to utilize internet based e-learning system to enhance educational/training capacity in every part of the world but more specifically in remote areas of both Canada and India where cardiovascular diseases is on the rise. This panel identified the need to develop CVD prevention e-learning courses for two distinct target audiences - (a) health professionals in training and practice such as doctors, nurses, public health specialists and PhD scientists; (b) a trade tool for high-school trained community health workers. They outlined 17 competency areas as a curriculum on *Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease*. Through the existing website based training program called **Health Sciences Online (www.hso.info)** this panel is ready to roll out this program. This panels specific recommendations are: (a) There is a need for more training in CVD prevention and e-learning will be a high-quality method to quickly and inexpensively train both community workers and health sciences professionals; (b) Create a CINI-HSO certificate in CVD Prevention this summer; and (c) Work in partnership with everyone interested to collaborate.

In Conclusion

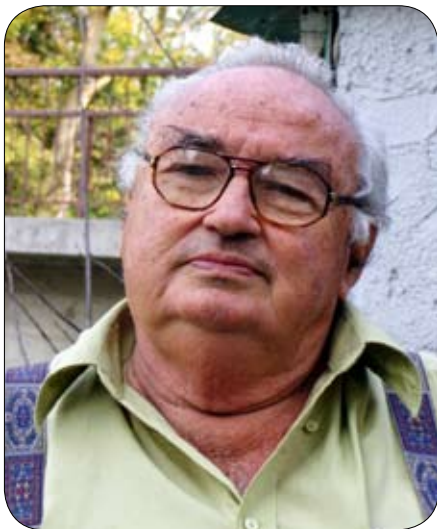
Several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed between the following Institutions/Organizations and Canada India Network Society (CINS), a non-profit Organization which initiated the CINI Conference on Cardiovascular Health: (1) Prevent India/Medwin Foundation, India; (2) Indian Institute of Labour Management, Jaipur, India; (3) Heart and Lung Institute, PROOF Centre, Providence Health Care/St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, Canada; and (4) Pathanjali Yog Peeth, Haridwar, India. Furthermore, the Fraser Health Authority announced to sponsor a cohort population based Surrey Heart Study, and a South Asian Desk to evaluate the cardiovascular risk of South Asian population in Fraser Health Authority's jurisdiction.

In conjunction with this India-Canada high level meeting, the CINS also organized three important events: (1) A Public Forum on Saturday June 19 to bring home the message to the population of Surrey, home of a large number of Indo Canadians living in Canada. The Mayor of Surrey, Ms. Diane Watts, declared the week of June 21st as the Surrey Heart Week. This Forum facilitated knowledge translation to the general public via presentations, questions and answers from four different experts - public health specialist, cardiologist, yoga/pranayam specialist, healthy cooking chef. The event was attended by over 200 citizens of Surrey and surrounding area. (2) A clinical symposium aimed at local physicians, specialists, nurses, other health care workers, trainees and students. This symposium covered a range of topics - cardiovascular epidemiology, risk factors such as hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus, obesity, cardiac arrhythmias, guidelines for South Asian population, and a special session on Ayurvedic medicine including practice/demonstration of yoga and pranayam. The CINI Organizers recognized five outstanding Canadians for lifetime achievement through their dedicated services to cardiovascular medicine. They are, for : (a) Basic Sciences: **Professor Naranjan S. Dhalla**; (b) Clinical Medicine: **Professor Bruce McManus**; (c) Population Health: **Professor George Fodor**; (d) Cardiac Surgery: **Honorable Senator Dr. Wilbert J Keon**; and (e) Healthy Public Policy: **Professor Sylvie Stachenko**. (3) A gala evening on June 22, 2010 attended by over 500 prominent citizens of British Columbia, Canada, India and other countries, including the 200 conference delegates. This event was attended by federal, provincial, municipal representatives including four provincial Ministers. Minister of Health Mr. Kevin Falcon underscored the timeliness of the CINI conference and emphasized the need for health promotion and assured of BC government's commitment for improving the cardiovascular health of South Asian population.

Overall this conference achieved its initial goals of networking the right people from the two countries; stimulate an agenda for cardiovascular disease prevention; and to create public and political awareness of the impending pandemic of CVD. This conference also created a movement in both countries at different levels to engage on the reduction of CVD burden. The organizers are committed to work with different panel members to ensure the implementation of the recommendations are indeed followed through. A progress report will be presented at a follow-up meeting in India, organized by the Medwin Foundation in Hyderabad in 2011. This will be a joint initiative of **Canada India Network Society (CINS)** and **Prevent India**.

REMEMBERING SOMEONE SPECIAL

Marian Rabinowitz



To Professor Dhalla, to Ivan Berkowitz and to all my old friends and colleagues from all over the world. A couple of years ago, I contributed to our CV Network with an article on "Creativity in Medicine and Afterwards". The person with whom I shared this vision, my partner of 48 years, husband, father of our 3 sons and grandfather of 9, Marian Rabinowitz M.D., passed away on August 11, at the age of 75, yet in the midst of his creative life. Marian was the father of Geriatric Medicine in Israel and he founded the first hospice for terminally ill patients in our country. He was a medical doctor, a pioneer in the science and art of care for the elderly and their families; he was a writer, a poet and a sculptor. After our first encounter in the Medical School in Jerusalem (the only one in the country at that time), we remained together in every aspect of our life. Marian knew more Cardiology and I more Geriatrics and palliative medicine than our colleagues ... our patients benefited from 2 doctors in one. He supported me in all my endeavours, rather ambitious for a woman in those years. He was till the last second an original thinker, a poet and a compassionate man. After a long and meaningful professional life in Medicine we both had, I was lucky to follow his example and to move on

toward a second career of arts and ideas. In addition to his many prior books read widely in our country, Marian and I published together one 2-volume books and a second book-art catalogue; the last entitled "Fruits of Time" appeared in print the day of his sudden death. These books comprise his poems, my mosaics, his sculptures and my paintings. They are solely given to people who donate the price of the book to institutions for children with special needs.

Thank you for your wish to know a little about Marian.

*Babeth Rabinowitz, Professor Emeritus of Cardiology Sackler School of Medicine TelAviv University,
Fellow Emeritus of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences.*



"Between the columns of hell"
(inspired by Dante's Divine Comedy)

Editor's Note: I recently read the latest book by Dr. Louis Ignarro who is an IACS Fellow and recipient of a 2007 Medal of Merit, the most prestigious award of the Academy "FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN CARDIOVASCULAR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH". I suggest you will be most interested to read the book which you can find online at: <http://www.healthiswealththebook.com>

About the Book



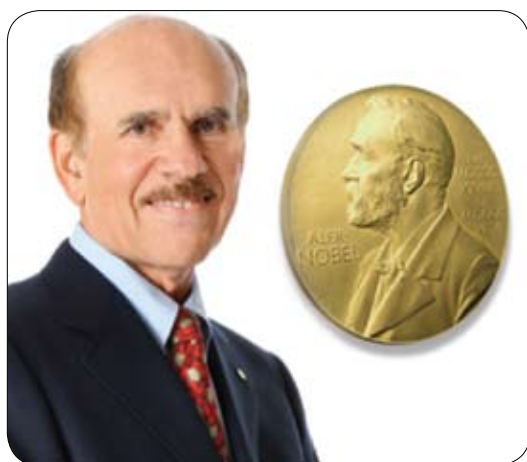
Health is Wealth is a book based upon hard evidence; not one filled with pseudo-scientific speculation and overblown promises about so-called "wonder foods." Dr. Ignarro was as skeptical as most Western medical professionals are about the ability of food to function as medicine before he began to see for himself the incredibly beneficial effects of NO supportive supplements and foods on the vessels of the cardiovascular system. The old "If there's a disease, there's a drug for it..." philosophy was definitely the culture in which he was immersed. But as he observed the growing amount of empirical evidence proving the powerful effects of amino acids, antioxidants, and other key nutrients, he was forced to rethink his position. His is a rigorous, questing, scientific mind, and, when presented with overwhelming evidence of the ability of the 10 Power Nutrients to prevent and even reverse damage and dysfunction, he became convinced of their effectiveness.

This book is a synthesis of our combined 50 years' experience as a research scientist, and as a naturopathic physician, respectively. Our vision

of health and disease prevention is based on our own clinical and laboratory experience combined with knowledge garnered from thousands of published research studies that we have synthesized into our "unified theory" of degenerative disease progression. Traditional research has a narrow field of vision; it looks at a single condition, a single nutrient, or a single drug. Very few studies have been designed to study simultaneously the effects of the many different nutrients that can influence our health. By doing our own meta-survey extraction from a massive body of current research, we have been able to examine nutrient interactions within the body's biochemical pathways and physiological functions. This work has uncovered vital relationships between specific nutrients and healthy tissues—relationships that demonstrate an unmistakable link between nutrient supplementation and BioWealth.

There are strong scientific facts that support every conclusion we make. As the healthcare crisis deepens, and support grows for the idea that our current "disease-care" system must be replaced with a new, different, better approach, we believe that we may be witnessing the beginning of the age of whole-body, whole-health medicine.

Dr. Louis Ignarro



Dr. Louis Ignarro's scientific credentials are as good as they get. In 1998, he won the Nobel Prize for Medicine, (along with Robert F. Furchgott and Ferid Murad), for his research discoveries showing the powerful ability of nitric oxide (or NO) to improve cardiovascular health and prevent heart disease. His groundbreaking work—the basis for his 2005 best-selling book, *NO More Heart Disease*—established Dr. Ignarro as perhaps the world's leading authority on the nutritional approach to cardiac wellness, along with making possible the development of Viagra.

He holds a Ph.D. in Pharmacology, is a distinguished professor of pharmacology at UCLA, and is a part-time professor at King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Dr. Ignarro has spent more than 30 years as a research scientist; seeking to understand the incredible role that nitric oxide plays in fostering optimal human health. One of his most important discoveries was that antioxidants, which reduce cell damage from free radicals, also increase nitric oxide levels by protecting blood vessel walls—which secrete nitric oxide—from damage.

He has received countless awards in addition to his Nobel Prize, including the 2008 Distinguished Scientist Award from the American Heart Association and the 2007 Medal of Merit from the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. He edits the journal *Nitric Oxide: Biology and Chemistry*, sits on numerous scientific advisory boards, and travels the world speaking to professional and lay audiences about the incredible power of nitric oxide.

<http://www.healthiswealththebook.com>

SCIENTIFIC FORUM XX

International Congress of Cardiovascular Sciences

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VII Brazilian Congress of Student's Leagues of Cardiovascular Sciences

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Editor's Note: In 2001, a group of concerned Brazilians formed CONNEXTIONS and have encouraged support in medicine and other areas, particularly in Portuguese-speaking Angola. On Dec. 10, 2006, Denoel Marcelino de Oliveira and the Heart Health Scholar Ivan Berkowitz met with the CONNEXTIONS group in Rio prior to Dr Denoel leading a initial training program to Lubango which included a Public Forum, attended by over 300 Angolans. Dr. Denoel was appointed as the Academy's Ambassador for Portuguese-speaking Africa. He reported recently "Angola's project is going very well. We are sending at least 3 to 4 groups per year to develop medical, social and educational work and training."

In new role, pediatric cardiac surgery team from Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia trains doctors in Algeria



Brazilian Ministry of Health applauds for the treatment of heart disease by the Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia (National Institute of Cardiology) located in Rio de Janeiro for exporting knowledge to Africa. A team for pediatric surgery embarked on Monday August 2, 2010 to conduct another program for more pediatric heart surgeries in Algeria. The first part of the group was in Algeria since July 25th, preparing children for procedures. The team will spend 15 days training doctors of Abdherramani Hospital, the main public hospital specialized in diseases of the heart in Algeria. In three years, the project has already operated on 100 children. The goal for this next mission is to perform at least 20 more surgeries.

The training cooperation with Algeria is part of an agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, signed in 2007, lasting until 2012. By then, Algerian surgeons should be ready to perform the most common surgeries without the help of Brazilian professionals. Before the first mission, no Algerian professionals were doing surgery on children in the country. The little patients were oper-

ated on only in France and Belgium, with a high cost to the Algerian government.

A team led by surgeon Denoel Marcelino de Oliveira, who will have six professionals (anesthesiologists, intensivists, pediatric cardiology and perfusionist), intends to conduct at least 20 surgeries during this period. During the last mission to the country in March 2010, ten children were operated successfully in five days. According to the director of the INC, Marco Antonio de Mattos, the goal is to close the year with 50 surgeries performed.

"The results of this international project shows the expertise of our professionals in transmitting knowledge and creating opportunities for cooperation with other countries," mentioned the Director of National Institute of Cardiology, Marco Antonio de Mattos.

"The results of the last mission were exceptional and highly praised by the whole group of Algerian hospital," boasts Denoel. "We're glad we reached the milestone of 100 surgeries. We hope this new mission will bring encouragement to the families, transfer of information to Algerian physicians and technicians, rapprochement between the governments of Algeria and Brazil, and especially quality life for children who will benefit from the project."

Nominations are requested for the following 2011 Awards of the Academy to be presented at the 4th World Congress to be held in India February 1-6, 2011:

Makoto Nagano Award for Achievements in Cardiovascular Education

Howard Morgan Award for Distinguished Achievements in Cardiovascular Research

Norman Alpert Award for Established Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences

Naranjan Dhalla Award for Distinguished Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences

Previous winners will be listed on the Academy web site: <http://www.heartacademy.org>

Please submit short CV and one page summary of contributions of the nominee by September 30, 2010 to Dr. Naranjan Dhalla, Executive Director – nsdhalla@sbrc.ca



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ADVANCED WORKSHOP on

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P R E L I M I N A R Y P R O G R A M

Wednesday, May 4

15:00 Registration
17:00 – 17:15 Opening and Welcome: Dr. Belma Turan (Dept. Biophysics, Ankara Univ. Fac. Medicine)
17:15 – 17:30 Opening address I: Dr. Serap Aykut Aka (Dept. Cardiovascular Surgery, Istanbul Univ. Faculty of Medicine)
17:30 – 17:45 Opening address II: Dr. Cetin Erol (Dept. Cardiology, Ankara Univ. Faculty of Medicine)
18:00 – 18:30 Opening lecture:
19:00 – 20:00 Reception

Thursday, May 5

9:00 – 10:30 Session I: 3 Talks
10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break
11:00 – 13:00 Session II: 4 Talks
13:00 – 15:00 Lunch & Poster section
15:00 – 16:30 Session III: 3 Talks

Thursday, May 5 (cont'd)

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break
17:00 – 18:30 Session IV: 3 Talks
19:00 Dinner

Friday, May 6

9:00 – 10:30 Session V: 3 Talks
10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break
11:00 – 13:00 Session VI: 4 Talks
13:00 – 15:00 Lunch & Poster section
15:00 – 16:30 Session VII: 3 Talks
16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break
17:00 – 18:30 Session VIII: 3 Talks
20:00 Farewell Dinner

Saturday, May 7

8:00 Trip To Cappadocia (Full day)

Sunday, May 8

DEPARTURE

Nominations are invited for the 2011 Award of the Academy's most prestigious Medal of Merit to be presented at the 4th World Congress to be held in India February 1–6, 2010:

Previous winners were:

- 2001 Michael DeBakey (Houston, USA) and Richard Bing (Pasadena, USA)
- 2002 Edwin Krebs (Seattle, USA) and Robert Furchgott (New York City, USA)
- 2003 Eugene Braunwald (Boston, USA) and Robert Lefkowitz (Durham, USA)
- 2004 Sir John Vane (London UK) and James Willerson (Houston USA)
- 2005 Sir Magdi Yacoub (London UK) and Robert B. Jennings (Durham, USA)
- 2006 Sir George Radda (Singapore) and Victor Dzau (Durham, USA)
- 2007 Louis Ignarro (Los Angeles, USA), Sen. Wilbert Keon (Ottawa, Canada) and Jutta Schaper (Bad Nauheim, Germany)
- 2008 Nirmal Ganguly (New Delhi, India), Sir Salvador Moncada (London, UK) and Wolfgang Schaper (Bad Nauheim, Germany), Howard Morgan (Lewisburg, USA)
- 2009 Ernesto Carafoli (Padova, Italy) and Eric Olson (Dallas, USA)

Please submit short CV and contributions of the candidate by September 30, 2010 to Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla, Executive Director: nsdhalla@sbrc.ca



**Heart Institute
University of Pécs**



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istvan.szokodi@aok.pte.hu

<http://www.tensi-congress.hu/ismc2010>

The IACS is honoured to announce the election 19 new most distinguished fellows:

Dr. Gerald Berenson (New Orleans, USA)
 Dr. Balram Bhargava (New Delhi, India)
 Dr. Arun Chockalingam (Bethesda, USA)
 Dr. Ian M.C. Dixon (Winnipeg, Canada)
 Dr. Hany Etieba (Glasgow, Scotland)
 Dr. Sheryl F. Kelsey (Pittsburgh, USA)
 Dr. Lorrie A. Kirshenbaum (Winnipeg, Canada)
 Dr. Asher Kimchi (Los Angeles, USA)
 Dr. Basil Lewis (Haifa, Israel)
 Dr. Shahbaz Ahmed Kureshi (Islamabad, Pakistan)

Dr. Nilanjana Maulik (Farmington, USA)
 Dr. Alan Menkis (Winnipeg, Canada)
 Dr. Amitabh Prakash (Auckland, New Zealand)
 Dr. Asher Shainberg (Ramat-Gan, Israel)
 Dr. Domingos Souza (Orebo, Sweden)
 Dr. Francis G. Spinale (Charleston, USA)
 Dr. M.-Saadeh Suleiman (Bristol, England)
 Dr. Teruhiko Toyo-Oka (Tokyo, Japan)
 Dr. András Varró (Szeged, Hungary)

Gerald Berenson



Dr. Berenson is Director, Tulane Center for Cardiovascular Health, and Professor, Departments of Epidemiology, Medicine (Cardiology), Pediatrics, Biochemistry, Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA. He received his B Sc and M D from Tulane where he has spent his entire career.

His early research focused on the role of arterial wall connective tissue proteoglycans in the development of atherosclerotic lesions. Later, his research extended into epidemiology to study the etiology of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. In particular, as the Principal Investigator of the NIH funded program since 1973, his research activities include anthropometric, hemodynamic, metabolic and genetic correlates of the subclinical cardiovascular/renal structure-function phenotypes. Around 2000, the Bogalusa Heart Study started to focus on the evolution of cardiovascular risk with normal aging.

This research area is closely related to his expertise and experience as a Cardiologist and Epidemiologist. He has helped establish the concept of the origin of cardiovascular diseases beginning in childhood from the Bogalusa Heart Study and the need for prevention to begin in early life. This long-term community-based epidemiologic study focuses on the early natural history of cardiovascular diseases beginning in childhood since 1973. The Bogalusa Heart Study group has thus far published about 1000 scientific research articles in a variety of areas related to cardiovascular disease risk factors, cardiovascular structure and function and type 2 diabetes.

Recently, his group is making every effort to run an international consortium with longitudinal pediatric studies of cardiovascular disease from Finland, Australia, and Muscatine, Iowa.

Balram Bhargava



Prof. Bhargava joined the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in 1992 after having been trained in coronary interventions at the Royal Brompton Hospital, National Heart Institute, London and the Gardiner Institute, University of Glasgow, UK. He obtained all his medical degrees from the King George's Medical College, Lucknow, India.

He has been a trained Interventional Cardiologist for the last 18 years. His career has included, teaching undergraduate medical students for the last 25 years and postgraduates for the last 20 years. He has performed more than 8,000 cardiac catheterizations, 4,000 angioplasty (PTCA) procedures, 700 valvuloplasties and 100 permanent pacemaker implants. He has published over a hundred important papers in peer reviewed international journals, chapters in books, refereed for international journals and has invited editorials and reviews in the BMJ, Lancet and Current Opinion in Cardiology. He has delivered several orations and has received awards for best paper in several scientific meetings in India and abroad. He has research grants from the Indian National Science Academy, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA and the Wellcome Trust, UK. He has been on the panel of Cardiologist for the Sports Authority of India. He served as a cardiologist for the Prime Minister of India for five years. He is on the Executive Committee of the Cardiology Society of India and advisor to the Indian Heart Journal.

His area of interest has been coronary interventions and has contributed to its development at the Institute, India and the South East Asia region. He has also contributed extensively on rheumatic valvular interventions both in research and patient care and newer techniques. He has received advanced training in Endovascular Brachytherapy, Intravascular Ultrasound, Biosense NOGA DMR and Gene therapy at the Washington Heart Centre, Washington DC.

Currently he is performing stem cell studies in humans with autologous bone marrow stem cells. He has been the Course Director of several international workshops on coronary interventions and has been visiting Professor and expert Consultant at several universities in Europe and USA. He has organized several national and international meetings and has performed live cases at teaching courses. Further, he has participated in several CMEs and given public awareness lectures as well. He has developed an

indigenous coronary stent and has several papers on innovative research and procedures. Also, he is the principal investigator for the indigenously developed low cost drug eluting coronary stents.

More recently he has initiated a course on Biodesign in collaboration with the Indian Institutes of Technology and the Stanford University, USA. This is an international fellowship on Biomedical Technology Innovation and has led to a dozen patents.

Arun Chockalingam



To provide leadership and coordination for the global health activities of the Institute, NHLBI recently selected Dr. Aran Chockalingam to lead NHLBI's Office of Global Health (OGH). Prior to this appointment, Dr. Chockalingam was the Founding Director of the Global Health Program and subsequently served in an enhanced role as the Director of Continuing Public Health Education at the Faculty of Health Sciences at the Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.

"Dr. Chockalingam brings a unique combination of experience in global health research, policy, training, and administration in addition to international professional leadership within the global health community," says Susan B. Shurin, M.D, NHLBI Acting Director.

After receiving his undergraduate degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering from the University of Madras, India and an M.S. degree in Biomedical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, India, he received his Ph.D. in Cardiac Physiology and Pharmacology from Memorial University of Newfoundland. In addition, he has an extensive and varied career in cardiovascular epidemiology, prevention, government research administration, and global health.

Dr. Chockalingam served as Assistant Professor and Associate Professor in the Division of Community Medicine at the Memorial University of Newfoundland; Senior Policy Advisor, Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, Health Canada Associate Director of the Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health in the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and currently serves as Secretary General of the World Hypertension League. He has published over 150 papers and 11 book chapters, served as an Editorial Board member and reviewer for numerous journals and was Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Hypertension Control and Associate Editor of CVD. His accomplishments have been recognized via a number of international awards. According to Dr. Chockalingam, his greatest personal accomplishment in life was climbing and summiting Mount Kilimanjaro, Roof of Africa 19,341 ft, in Tanzania, Africa (November 2002). "Chronic noncommunicable diseases are global in nature, and in a globalized world, the solutions should be global as well. We do not see a divide between developed and developing countries any longer," says Dr. Chockalingam. He believes that investments can be maximized by aligning chronic disease needs with existing global health efforts to strengthen health systems, ensuring effective training at all levels, promoting maternal and child health, and finding sustainable solutions for infectious diseases that require long-term care such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Dr. Chockalingam says that the Office of Global Health at NHLBI will focus on all issues related to heart, lung, and blood diseases by connecting NHLBI's expertise with global and regional needs. Countries can learn from each other and he believes that partnership within NHLBI, across NIH, and across the U.S. institutions concerned with the global epidemic of heart, lung, and blood diseases should be the first step in promoting global health. "We should keep an open mind, learn from others experiences, share our knowledge and work together to bring better health to everyone around the world."

Ian M.C. Dixon



Ian Dixon is Professor of Physiology, University of Manitoba. The work carried out by the members of Dixon's group deals with investigation of the signaling pathways responsible for the occurrence of cardiac fibrosis in the development of pathological cardiac hypertrophy and overt congestive heart failure. They are interested in the cell biology and physiology of myofibroblasts and study their contractility, migration and protein synthesis. Each of these facets of myofibroblast function play a role in wound healing and remodeling of extracellular matrix in diseased hearts, and Dixon's career has focused on their contribution to heart failure. This lab is pursuing questions in elucidating the molecular trigger(s) in the phenocconversion of fibroblasts to myofibroblasts. Second, their efforts are directed on those signaling proteins that either stimulate or repress fibroblast and myofibroblast activity in the heart. In particular, they are known for our work on Smad protein function in cardiac myofibroblasts, and more recently for work addressing the role of endogenous TGF- β repressors in heart disease. Their more recent work is directed at the study of Ca signaling in cardiac fibroblasts, as unlike cardiac myocytes, very little is known about Ca oscillations and their role in either myofibroblasts or fibroblasts from heart. Finally we have directed our efforts at showing the major diversity that exists among

fibroblasts from different organs – essentially we are proving that cardiac myofibroblasts are unique in comparison to those from skin, kidney, cornea, etc. and that the pathophysiology of cardiac wound healing is itself unique.

Dixon is a former Myles Robinson Heart Health Scholar at the University of Manitoba (2002 – 2009), and has twice won the Robert E. Beamish award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba. He currently serves on the editorial boards of Cardiovascular Research and Mol Cell Biochemistry. He has had the unique pleasure of supervising some extremely talented graduate students and has graduated some 15 of these, along with 3 post-doctoral fellows. Dixon is currently the Director of Student Affairs at the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences in Winnipeg, Canada. To his great surprise he was born in rural Manitoba, Canada. He enjoys fiction of a wide variety of genres, natural history, playing music, and solving problems in mechanical engineering. He has been married to Kelly for 24 years and they have two children – Camille (16) and Keith (13).

Hany Eteiba



Dr. Hany Eteiba is a distinguished Senior Consultant Cardiologist at the University Department of Medical Cardiology, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, where he has been the Lead Interventional Cardiologist. Dr. Eteiba was a driving force behind the development of the sub-specialty of interventional cardiology in Glasgow and the West of Scotland. He has recently played an instrumental role in establishing the West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital. His unique expertise in the field of interventional cardiology has undoubtedly revolutionized the treatment of myocardial infarction in the West of Scotland by introducing primary angioplasty for ST-elevation myocardial infarction.

Dr. Eteiba has also been instrumental in developing and implementing Glasgow and West of Scotland cardiac services strategy, guidelines and protocols for management of adult heart disease consistent with international guidelines. This has been based on achieving equity of access to high quality cardiac investigations and therapeutic modalities.

As an honorary senior clinical lecturer in the Division of Cardiovascular Sciences in Glasgow University, he has a fundamental role and responsibilities for invasive/interventional training, education and mentoring of junior cardiologists, in addition to planning, supervising and supporting their clinical research projects. He has recently been invited to organise several international cardiac courses, symposia and live demonstrations worldwide under the auspices of Royal College and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG) expanding his international post-graduate educational role.

His widely cited publications helped improving patient care and provided objective evidence of the influence of socio-economic status on clinical outcome post-percutaneous intervention. His publications have thus led to improving equity of access to interventional treatment.

In addition, his role as the Medical Advisor to the International Committee of RCPSG helped strengthen links with universities, societies, Health Authorities worldwide.

Dr. Eteiba is an eminent board member of the Scottish Cardiac Society. He is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and Edinburgh as well as the American College of Cardiology and American Society of Angiography and Intervention.

Sheryl F. Kelsey

Sheryl F. Kelsey is Professor of Epidemiology and Co-Director of the Epidemiology Data Center at the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh. She received a PhD in statistics from Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and was the first woman to get her PhD in statistics from CMU. She has over thirty years of experience in the design, coordination and analyses of clinical trials and registries and teaches a course in design of clinical trials. She directs the BARI 2D study, a randomized clinical trial of patients with diabetes and heart disease testing two strategies for treating diabetes and testing whether coronary bypass surgery or percutaneous coronary intervention added to medical therapy is better than medical therapy alone with regard to preventing death and heart attacks. She is director of the Data Coordinating Center for Women's Ischemia Syndrome Evaluation (WISE), a multicenter study aimed to improve diagnostic reliability of cardiovascular testing in women. Dr. Kelsey is principal investigator for the Dynamic Registry which has charted the course of Percutaneous Coronary Intervention for over 30 years. To ensure that randomized clinical trials are being carried out safely, Dr. Kelsey has served on numerous Data and Safety Monitoring Boards for the United States National Institutes of Health, the Veterans Administration, and industry.

Lorrie Kirshenbaum



Dr. Kirshenbaum is an internationally-recognized researcher who holds a Canada Research Chair position in Molecular Cardiology in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba and is developing ways to manipulate cardiac cell growth and cell death. His research explores signal transduction mechanisms that regulate cell growth and death with the aim of developing new treatment interventions to prevent excess cell loss during disease conditions that lead to heart failure. His interest also lies in understanding how to manipulate the cardiac cell cycle for regenerating cardiac cells after myocardial injury.

In particular, Dr. Kirshenbaum's laboratory is studying a gene that was cloned several years ago by his lab called Bnip3 that gets switched on during hypoxia and oxidative-stress injury. This gene has become a potential target in his work to develop new treatments that could help prevent this gene from being switched on; reducing the impact heart disease has on patients.

Dr. Kirshenbaum's work is also focusing on the tumor suppressor protein p53, which functions as a guardian of the cell cycle and which prevent cells from growing. However, it provokes apoptosis in cardiac cells when its expression is deregulated, such as during myocardial infarction. Dr. Kirshenbaum is examining ways to suppress or regulate p53 expression in the heart during hypoxic injury.

In addition to conducting his research at the St. Boniface Research Centre, Kirshenbaum teaches medical and graduate students at the University of Manitoba, and manages his lab which staffs researchers and lab assistants from around the world. A technique Kirshenbaum pioneered has already improved the efficiency of introducing the new DNA (genes) into these cells. The implications of this research are immense. For example, scientists could use the therapy to direct cells to suppress or kill cancer cells, or to kill off other genes which are provoking the death of cells that heart patients actually need.

Dr. Kirshenbaum has received several awards including the Chemical Institute of Canada's Distinguished Chemist Award, the Canadian Cardiovascular Society – Robert E. Beamish Award, the Rh Institute Foundation Award for Excellence in Health Research – Clinical, and the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation - Joe Doupe Young Investigator Award, to name but a few. Most recently, Dr. Kirshenbaum has been given the prestigious recognition as Fellow of the International Society for Heart Research (ISHR) and Fellow of the American Heart Association (AHA).

Shahbaz Ahmed Kureshi



Dr. Shahbaz Ahmed Kureshi is amongst the first generation of medical doctors of Pakistan who besides academics, also excelled in cardiovascular research. He has had a distinguished academic record. He did his Senior Cambridge from St. Mary's Academy, Rawalpindi, and FSc(Pre-Medical) from Gordon College Rawalpindi. He graduated from Nishtar Medical College, Multan in 1974, and actively participated in extra curricular activities being editor in chief of the college magazine, Nishtar, best cricket player and captain of the cricket team.

Dr. Kureshi joined Federal Government Services Hospital, Islamabad in December 1974. In January 1977 he was certified by ECFMG, USA. He has held professional appointments Federal Government Services Hospital, Islamabad and is presently Senior Consultant Cardiologist and Head of the Department of Cardiology. He has been an examiner for M. Phil students of the Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad.

As a passionate and dedicated teacher he has taught a generation of medical students both at the undergraduate and postgraduate level since 1975. He is a leading and distinguished cardiologist of the country and is highly respected by his peers both within the country and at all the cardiology forums of the country.

He has been a keen researcher, an outstanding academician and a world renowned clinician. He has supervised a large number of M.Phil and MSc students in the various fields of Cardiology. He has to his credit 22 publications in peer review international and national journals. His international publications have been indexed by PubMed (Index Medicus). His international publications have been mentioned as original contribution to cardiology and have provided guidelines and visionary concept on the management of patients in various cardiovascular diseases. He has presented his original research work at all the important international cardiology forums and is a sought out speaker at international and national conferences, and has made over 75 oral presentations all of which have been original and pioneering. He has represented Pakistan through the medium of research papers at various international forms such as the Asian Congress of Cardiology, the World Congress of Cardiology and the annual scientific sessions of American College of a Chest Physicians. In addition he had been the national coordinator for cardiovascular disease control project of World Heart Organization in which capacity he played a leading role in the prevention of cardiovascular diseases in Pakistan, and the national programme manager for Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease Control Project for the World Health Organization. He has been the convener for several international conferences of Pakistan Hypertension League, Pakistan Cardiac Society Pakistan Aspirin Foundation and National Academy of Medical Sciences. He is the Past Vice President of Pakistan Cardiac Society, presently Chief Co-ordinator for Pakistan Hypertension League and Convener for Pakistan Cardiac Society in Islamabad. He has thus enhanced the image of his country amongst the comity of the nations.

He is a highly qualified cardiologist, holding internationally recognized qualifications, namely, D Med Sc (Kyoto University School of Medicine, Kyoto, Japan), and Board Certification in Nuclear Cardiology (USA), apart from MCPS (Medicine) and Diploma in Cardiology (Kobe University School of Medicine, Kobe, Japan). He has setup state of the art Cardiology Department at Federal Government Services Hospital, Islamabad, fully equipped with noninvasive diagnostic facilities, a field in which he is a pioneer, and has provided round the clock care to poor patients. He is a Fellow of all the leading Colleges and Societies of Cardiology.

In addition to his own onerous duties as the Head of the Department Cardiology cum Consultant at the FGSH, Dr. Shahbaz Ahmed Kureshi is contributing as Visiting Professor at the Pakistan Institute for Engineering and Applied Sciences, Nilore, Pakistan.

Dr. Shahbaz A. Kureshi has a dynamic personality is an excellent teacher admired both by his students and patients and is a leading and distinguished cardiologist of Pakistan. His status in the Pakistan Cardiac Society and Pakistan Hypertension League, speaks volume of his respect amongst his peers.

The range and quality contribution by Dr. Kureshi to his organization the FGSH, Islamabad and the suffering humanity then, transcends the barriers of routine function. He is endowed with organizational skills and welfare organization approach.

Nilanjana Maulik



Dr. Nilanjana Maulik is a Professor of Molecular Cardiology and heading the Angiogenesis Laboratory at the Department of Surgery, University of Connecticut Medical Center, Farmington, USA. Prof. Maulik received her PhD in Biochemistry in December 1990 from Calcutta University, India. After completion of her PhD, Prof. Maulik joined the department of Surgery at University of Connecticut Medical Center as a research fellow and continued as a faculty where now she serves as Tenured Professor. She is also a faculty member of the Cell Biology Graduate Program at the University of Connecticut Health Center. She is heavily involved in NIH funded research (3 NIH grants) and serves as expert in the field in the NIH study section and has given invited lectures both nationally and internationally. Prof Maulik is also member of several prestigious societies, such as FASEB, AHA, ISHR, American College of Nutrition (ACN), International College of Angiology (ICA). She was the member of the Myocardial Ischemia Metabolism (MIM) study section of the NIH and of the NHLBI Program Project Review Committee. Prof. Maulik also serves as a special panel board (NIH) and as a member of the Northern Connecticut Chapter of AHA Grant review process and also served in several other study sections of the NIH such as CVB, ECS and VSCB etc. She is on several Editorial boards of major cardiovascular journals. She is an associate editor of Molecular Cellular Biochemistry journal. Teaching is an integral part of her professional path. She is a recipient of several prestigious awards including Faculty Recognition award from the University of Connecticut Health Center. Recently she has been appointed as the Director of Health Sciences for the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, Manitoba, Canada. Her research focuses on the molecular mechanism of myocardial angiogenesis in the infarcted heart, ischemia/reperfusion injury, apoptosis and on the development of cardioprotective strategies which includes gene and stem cell therapy. She has published 189 original peer reviewed articles and 35 book chapters and very recently she has edited a book on epigenetics and human diseases. Prof Maulik has organized several international conferences/symposia.

Alan H. Menkis



Dr. Alan Menkis was appointed in September, 2004 as the Medical Director of the WRHA Cardiac Sciences Program and the Head of the Section of Cardiac Surgery, University of Manitoba.

He was born and raised in Toronto, Ontario. He achieved an MD degree from McMaster University in Hamilton and did postgraduate training in cardiovascular research, internal medicine, and surgery in Hamilton and Memorial University in Newfoundland. He received general surgical and cardiac surgical training at The University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He received advanced post fellowship training in mechanical circulatory assist devices in Ottawa and at the University of Utah, in Salt Lake City.

He has pursued an interest in Health Care Policy, Economics and Administration and participated in several programs most notably the prestigious Executive Program for Physicians and Health Care Leaders at Harvard University. Dr. Menkis, in addition to being the Medical Director of the WRHA Cardiac Sciences Program, is also the Chair of CHaRM (Cardiovascular Health Research in Manitoba)

designed to bring cardiac researchers from different disciplines and institutions together.

His research interests include innovations in the treatment of valvular heart disease, mechanical circulatory assistance and more recently in robotic surgery. He has published extensively and has been the recipient of numerous research grants. He previously sat on the Clinical Trials Committee of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and is an associate editor with the Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation. He is the former Chairman of Cardiac Surgery at the University of Western Ontario and the London Health Sciences Center. He is Past President of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation and Past President of the Canadian Society for Transplantation.

Since 1997 he has been a driving force in the development of minimally invasive and robotic cardiac surgery locally, nationally and internationally.

With Ivan Berkowitz, Dr. Menkis has developed the Symposia on the FUTURE of HEART HEALTH, The 3rd Symposium will be held in Winnipeg on Sept. 25, 2010. All of the talks and discussions will be added ONLINE as are the talks from the 2nd Symposium at: www.heartconference.com

Letters of Interest or Nominations are requested for positions on the Editorial Board of *CV Network*.

The Members of the Board are expected to provide articles and stories of general interest to the cardiovascular community in addition to reports on heart health activities in their area of the world.

Please submit details to Dr. Naranjan Dhalla, Executive Director – nsdhalla@sbr.ca

Amitabh Prakash



Amitabh Prakash received his undergraduate degree (MBBS) from the Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, affiliated with Delhi University in 1988. He completed his masters (MD) in Pharmacology from the Department of Pharmacology at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, in 1991. Over the next six years he was involved in research and teaching, initially as a Senior Demonstrator and then as an Assistant Professor, at the Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics at AIIMS, New Delhi.

Dr. Prakash moved to a career at the medical publishing with Adis, a Wolters Kluwer company, in June 1997. As a medical writer in the Scientific Writing Group, Dr. Prakash wrote a number of single-agent reviews that were published in international peer-reviewed journals published by Adis, e.g., *Drugs*, *CNS Drugs* and *BioDrugs*. In 1999 he moved to the Commissioning Services Group and has been the Editor of various MEDLINE-indexed journals over the last ten years, e.g. *Drugs & Aging* and the *American Journal of Respiratory Medicine* (later renamed *Treatments in Respiratory Medicine*). He became the Founding Editor of the *American Journal of Cardiovascular*

Drugs in 2001 and he was appointed the Editor of *Clinical Pharmacokinetics* in January 2005.

The *American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs* was adopted as the official journal of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS) in January 2006 and it has an ISI impact factor of 1.964 (currently ranked 47th of 95 journals in the 'Cardiac & Cardiovascular System' category). *Clinical Pharmacokinetics* has an ISI impact factor of 4.560 and is currently ranked 27th of 236 journals in the 'Pharmacology & Pharmacy' category.

As the Commissioning Editor (Cardiovascular Medicine), Dr. Prakash is responsible for the cardiovascular content in five international peer-reviewed journals published by Adis, e.g. *Drugs*, *CNS Drugs*, *Drugs & Aging*, *Pediatric Drugs* and the *American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs*. As the Journal Services Specialist (Adis Journals) he champions Adis journal capabilities and provides editorial leadership to ensure content and processes meet appropriate quality and timeliness expectations.

Dr. Prakash has continued to nurture his love for teaching by conducting in 'medical writing and ethical scientific publication' workshops for medical postgraduates and young scientists in New Zealand, Italy and in India.

He is a Life Member of the Indian Pharmacological Society (IPS), and a member of the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), the Australasian Society of Clinical Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT), and the IACS.

Dr. Prakash received the global company-wide President's Club Award for Editorial Excellence in 2005, and he was elected a Fellow of the Indian Pharmacological Society in 2008.

Asher Shainberg



Prof. Asher Shainberg was born in 1940 in Tel Aviv. He obtained his PhD from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, working on muscle differentiation. He accepted a postdoctoral position at the Roche Institute for Molecular Biology in Nutley, New Jersey (1970-72), and afterwards he was a Visiting Fellow at the National Institute for Health (NIH), Bethesda. In 1973, Prof. Shainberg returned to Israel and was given the position of lecturer in Bar-Ilan University, where he does research and teaches students to this day. Prof. Shainberg spent a sabbatical year in 1980-1 in University of Toronto working on the sarcoplasmic reticulum of skeletal muscle, and another sabbatical in 1989, working in the NIH on the ultrastructure of cardiac and skeletal muscle. Prof. Shainberg became a Full Professor in 1989. He served as Chairman of the Department of Physiology at Bar-Ilan University during 2002-2005.

Prof. Shainberg has instructed 28 students for their PhD degree and 57 students for their Master's degree. He is currently supervising 4 PhD students and 5 MSc students. The topics of his research studies are the mechanism of cardioprotection from ischemic damage by nucleic acids (adenosine and UTP), calcium homeostasis, and mitochondrial function. He demonstrated that adenosine A3 receptor agonist is effective both *in vivo* and *in vitro* against doxorubicin (also called adriamycin) induced cardiotoxicity via the restoration of Ca^{2+} homeostasis and prevention of mitochondrial damage that occurs as a result of Ca^{2+} overload. Prof. Shainberg has published more than 150 research papers in prestigious international journals. Most of these studies were done on rat cardiac cells grown in culture.

Prof. Shainberg served as General Secretary of the Israel Society for Heart Research (ISHR) during 1997-2000, and he also served as President of the Israel Society for Physiology and Pharmacology (ISPP) during 2004-2008.

Francis G. Spinale



Francis G. Spinale is Professor of Surgery, Physiology and Pediatrics at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Dr. Spinale received his MD and PhD degrees from MUSC and has held a long-standing interest in the development of diagnostic therapeutic (medical and surgical) strategies for both acute and chronic heart failure. These research interests include myocardial protection strategies for cardiac surgery, surgical approaches for heart failure and the mechanisms of myocardial remodeling. Dr. Spinale is a member of the Society of Clinical Investigation and is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the American Association for Thoracic Surgeons. He serves on several editorial boards including *Circulation*, *American Journal of Physiology*, *Journal of Heart Failure* and the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. He has authored over 355 full length articles and book chapters on heart failure, cardiac surgery and myocardial remodeling.

Saadeh Suleiman



Prof. Saadeh Suleiman received his Ph.D. degree in Biological Chemistry in 1980 from the University of Essex, England. He then joined the faculty of An-Najah University, Nablus in the West Bank. For 8 years, he played a key role in promoting scientific collaboration and held senior positions including Dean of Research and a member of the Board of Directors for Scholarships at the British Council in Jerusalem. In 1987, he was simultaneously awarded a Fulbright fellowship and a research position in Physiology at Bristol University in the UK. He opted to join Bristol in 1988 as Research Fellow and was promoted to a lecturer (1992), Senior Lecturer (1994), Reader (2000) and to a Chair of Cardiac Physiology in 2005. He is a founding member of the Bristol Heart Institute which was established in 1995 to foster collaborative research in Bristol which has subsequently grown in stature to be one of the top cardiovascular research institutes in the UK with a newly opened state-of-the-art clinical centre. In 2003, the University of Bristol awarded him the higher degree of DSc in recognition of the distinction of his research. High profile activities outside Bristol included being a member of the team that was awarded the UK Hospital Doctor Award for Team of the Year in Surgery and

runners up for Cardiovascular Medicine, election to the executive committee of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research, invitations to advise on research activities overseas and to speak at, or chair at national and international meetings. He has organized several international meetings at Bristol and has served on the organizing committee of several other meetings in the UK and other European countries. He has published extensively and has been successful at obtaining funding to support his research. Moreover, Prof. Suleiman has a strong track record in communicating research output through media and public engagement.

The aims of Dr Suleiman's research have been to investigate the cellular mechanisms underlying the damaging effects of cardiac insults (calcium-paradox and ischemia), and to formulate cardioprotective strategies based on interventions that oppose metabolic and ionic disturbances. His work has uncovered important metabolic and ionic aspects relating to cardiac insults, the role of cardiac amino acid transporters and has led to significant changes in clinical practice during cardiac surgery. In the early 1990's he demonstrated that a decrease in sodium loading underlies the cardioprotective actions of hypothermia, the amino acid taurine and magnesium during the calcium-paradox. He introduced the novel approach of using both cardiac sarcolemmal vesicles (devoid of organelles) and isolated myocytes to characterise relevant amino acid transporters and was able to directly link the activity and expression of transporters to the effects of cardiac insults. In his clinically based work, he used myocardial amino acids to assess the efficacy of different cardioplegic techniques during open heart surgery which resulted in improvement in protection and outcome. His pioneering work in paediatric cardiac surgery has shown that vulnerability is not only different from adult but also is dependent on developmental age, cyanosis and pathology all requiring different cardioprotective techniques. His work provided direct evidence showing that cyanotic children sustain cardiac damage due to re-oxygenation prior to ischemic cardioplegic arrest. This has prompted several clinical trials investigating the benefits of controlled reoxygenation during pediatric surgery. Recently he characterised a murine model of chronic coronary artery disease which is being used to investigate the effect of disease on cardiac oxidative stress, mitochondria and the underlying triggers of arrhythmia and sudden death. Prof. Suleiman has been interested in the role of mitochondria in myocardial protection of adult and juvenile heart and has recently co-edited a book on mitochondria. This activity has been largely through collaboration with Prof. Halestrap in Bristol. His work showed that propofol, a mitochondrial pore inhibitor is cardioprotective in a clinically relevant model of cardiopulmonary bypass and cardioplegic arrest. As a result he is currently conducting clinical trial investigating the cardioprotective effects of this drug in patients undergoing coronary and aortic valve surgery.

Teruhiko Toyo-Oka

Dr. Toyo-Oka received his education at the University of Tokyo and also in Heidelberg and San Diego. His current appointment is as Visiting Professor of Postgraduate School of Medicine, Department of Cardio-angiology, Kitasato Institute. He has profound knowledge and research experience in clinical cardiology, patient's care, diagnosis and treatment in cardiovascular medicine cellular, molecular physiology, and pharmacology as well as extensive University teaching experience in

both basic and clinical sciences. He provided leadership and management in multidisciplinary groups of scientists in the disciplines Physiology, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutics and Medicine plus coordination and budgetary / personnel management of research projects and teaching programs in Academia. He restructured academic departments in a merger and developed them to high international standards through recruitment and establishment of contemporary techniques. He planned and implemented an interdisciplinary M.D. and Ph.D. Research Program in Health Sciences. Also, he had leadership experience in the U.S. and Europe and was responsible for communication and alignment of activities with neighboring disciplines (CV Surgery, Pharmaceutical Development, Pediatrics, Public Health etc.). He maintains international professional contacts acquired during his academic and clinical career.

András Varró



András Varró graduated from the Szeged Medical University (Hungary) with an M.D. degree in 1978. He obtained his PhD degree in 1987. In 1998 he received the D.Sc. degree from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Between 1978 and 1990 he worked at The Cardiovascular Department of the Institute for Drug Research in Budapest and he was involved in various research projects applying *in vivo* and *in vitro* pharmacological methods to develop cardiotonic and antiarrhythmic drugs. Between 1991 and 2001 he was working at the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy at the University of Szeged, Hungary with Professor Julius Gy. Papp and András Varró succeeded him as Chairman of the Department in 2001. During his career, he spent 5 years in the USA, at the Kranner Institute of Cardiology, Indiana University with Professor Borys Surawicz, and at the Department of Pharmacology and Cell Biophysics, University of Cincinnati, Ohio with Professors Arnold Schwartz and David Lathrop. He also spent more than 1 year (1991-1992) in the United Kingdom at the Department of Veterinary Preclinical Sciences, University of Liverpool, with Professor David Eisner. His research interests include physiology and pharmacology of cardiac potassium channels, cellular mechanisms of antiarrhythmic and proarrhythmic drug actions. His most important scientific achievements were contributing to the elucidation of the cellular mode of action of amiodarone (Eur. J. Pharmacol. 1985; 112:419), the role of the slow delayed rectifier potassium current (IKs) in cardiac repolarization and repolarization reserve (J Physiol, 2000; 523:67, Circulation, 2005; 112:1392.) and the characterization of the native human transmembrane potassium currents (Cardiovasc Res, 1998; 40:508, 2001; 49:790).

He is the member of the British Pharmacological Society and also of the American Heart Association and Cardiac Electrophysiology Society (USA). Between 1998 and 2002 he served as an editor for the British Journal of Pharmacology. He published more than 185 full length papers in English language and 9 book chapters. He was also involved in 7 patent applications for new cardioactive drugs.

Biographical information on Drs. Kimchi, Lewis and Souza will appear in a later issue

The Best Clinical Science

from the 83rd Annual Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association

American Heart Association
SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS
2010

SAVE THE DATE:

1 December 2010
5.00 – 9.00pm

VENUE:

Hilton Hotel
Sydney

We cordially invite you to attend The Best Clinical Science from the 83rd Annual Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association which will be held at the Hilton Hotel, Sydney on 1 December 2010.

- **Chairman: Dr Gordon F. Tomaselli**, President-Elect of the AHA and Professor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University
- **Local expert: Professor Andrew Tonkin**, Head of the Cardiovascular Research Unit, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University
- **Also presenting (via satellite): Dr Elliott M. Antman**, Chair of 83rd Scientific Sessions of the AHA, Professor of Medicine at Harvard University and Senior Associate Editor of Circulation.

Invited speakers will be discussing the findings from the most important clinical presentations from AHA Scientific Sessions 2010 including the Late Breaking Clinical Trials Session.

This meeting will be the perfect opportunity for Australian healthcare professionals to hear the latest developments in clinical practice in a setting where they can participate in discussion with their peers.

The 4-hour meeting will include dinner and post-meeting drinks.

We very much hope that you will be able to join us for what promises to be a valuable and stimulating meeting in Sydney, Australia.

For further information or to register, visit
www.AHA-Australia.com.au or call 02 9276 6667



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2010 SYMPOSIUM on the "FUTURE OF HEART HEALTH" Saturday Sept. 25, 2010



Cohen Auditorium, St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre

8:00 am

Breakfast

*Moderator: Richard Cloutier, News Director
CJOB 68: Manitoba's Information Superstation*

8:45 am

Introduction

Dr. Michel Tetreault – President & CEO, St. Boniface Hospital

Dr. Alan Menkis – Medical Director, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Cardiac Sciences Program and Section Head of Cardiac Surgery, University of Manitoba

Session 1

What We Can Learn From The U.S. Health Care System, What They Can Learn From Us

9:00 am

The Honorable Senator Sharon Carstairs – Member of Canada's Senate

Dr. Jeffrey Rich – Adult Cardiac Surgery, General Thoracic Surgery, Norfolk, Virginia

Discussion Panel: Dr. Hilary Grocott, Dr. Michael Mack

Session 2

Integrated Delivery Of Cardiac Care (Convergence)

10:00 am

Dr. Michael Mack – Chairman of the Board, Cardiopulmonary Research Science and Technology Institute, Medical Director Cardiovascular Services and Director of Transplantation, Medical City Dallas Hospital

Dr. Arvind Koshal – Director of Development and External Affairs, Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute

Discussion Panel: Mr. Francis LaBossiere, Dr. Alan Menkis, Dr. David Taggart, Ms. Sheila Bowles

Session 3

Hospitals, Are You Promoting Healthy Living In The Workplace?

11:00 am

Dr. Sharon Macdonald - Department Head, Associate Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba

Discussion Panel: Dr. Arvind Koshal, Mr. Francis LaBossiere, Ms. Lorraine Avery

11:40 am–12:40 pm

Lunch

Session 4

Genetic Testing In The Clinic For CV Disease: Genomic Guided Warfarin Therapy

12:50 pm

Dr. Jennifer Hall – Associate Professor of Medicine, Director, Program in Translational Cardiovascular Genomics, Lillehei Heart Institute Developmental Biology Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Discussion Panel: Ms. Susan Mertin, Dr. Pawan Singal, Dr. Ryan Zarychanski, Dr. Rob Ariano

Session 5

Making Your Heart Stand Still: Advances In MR Technology For Cardiac Diagnoses

1:30pm

Dr. Ian Smith – General Director, National Research Council Institute for Biodiagnostics

Dr. John Saunders – Chief Scientific Officer, Founder of IMRIS

Discussion Panel: Dr. Michael Mack, Dr. Davinder Jassal

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Refreshment Break

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

The Debate

Angioplasty and Stents are Better Revascularization Than Cardiac Surgery

Pro: Dr. John Ducas - Section of Cardiology, St. Boniface General Hospital

Con: Dr. David Taggart – Professor of Cardiovascular Surgery, University of Oxford, Consultant Cardiac Surgeon, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, United Kingdom

Rebutal

Open Discussion



Hôpital St-Boniface Hospital



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