Message From the Chair

I Look Forward to Serving You

As I begin my tenure as BCVS chair, I would like to extend my thanks to Mark Sussman, PhD, FAHA, who just concluded his two-year term. Sussman did a fantastic job. He re-energized our Council and initiated endeavors to strengthen our membership from junior investigator as well as international standpoints.

Lured Sussman for the positive direction he has taken the BCVS Council. Moving forward, please contact me about any matters you think are important for BCVS leadership or for basic science within the American Heart Association. I hope to stamp my own style upon the BCVS Leadership Committee and will continue efforts Sussman started.

As I take over this role, we’re in a dangerous time in science when funding from all sources is becoming limited and seriously hampering scientific progress. We must continue to recognize the importance of AHA in supporting basic cardiovascular research and do our part to support that mission.

I encourage you to play an active role in AHA and strive for excellence in your research endeavors. Excellent and cutting-edge basic science in cardiovascular disease is the cornerstone of the AHA’s research portfolio. We must support the opportunity the AHA provides for our scientists, especially our young trainees and junior faculty.

My focus for this column is quality of life. It has been my privilege and honor to represent all of you as BCVS Chair. You are in good hands heading forward. Keep the faith, get involved, and I’ll see you at all the meetings. With love and build up a generation of scientists to improve cardiovascular disease outcomes with basic science.

You will likely be reading this message following our annual summer conference that has quickly become the go-to meeting for people studying cardiac biology. This meeting is where all those who care about basic cardiovascular research come to discuss the latest data. Over the last two years, the poster presentations have doubled.

This year’s meeting was July 23–26 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. Our co-chairs are Annamaria Leri, MD, Roger Hujar, MD; and Yibin Wang, PhD. They assembled an exciting scientific program. Because Sussman was involved in this meeting’s planning, I’m certain we had plenty of fun outside the scientific sessions as well. In the next newsletter, we’ll report on highlights of this meeting.

I’m here to represent you. Don’t be afraid to ask to be more involved in Council activities. Two areas we are most committed to are our young investigator and international programs.

We plan to build on the latter during my two-year term as BCVS chair. We are targeting China. These programs could be a first foray into this relationship. It will be an important contribution to our mission. It will be an important contribution to our mission.

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Walter J. Koch
PhD, FAHA

Message From the Editor: BCVS Leadership

BCVS 2012

T he Basic Cardiovascular Sciences Scientific Sessions 2012 was held July 23-26 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside in New Orleans. The conference, titled “Frontiers in Cardiovascular Science and Novel Therapy,” provided state-of-the-art coverage of the most exciting scientific advances in cardiovascular medicine and placed these scientific insights in the context of impact upon clinical medicine and patient care.

The organizing committee consisted of Yibin Wang, co-chair (University of California, Los Angeles); Roger Hujar, co-chair (Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York); Annamaria Leri, Co-Chair (Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston); Burns C. Blaxall (University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry, Rochester, N.Y.); Asa B. Giustino (University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif.); Joshua M. Hare (University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Coral Gables, Fla.); Richard K. Scott (University of California, San Francisco, Calif.); and Jianying Zhou (Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta). The meeting was co-chaired by Yibin Wang, PhD, Xin Ma, MD, PhD, and Dober. Enjoy the rest of the summer. If I don’t see you in New Orleans, I will see you at Scientific Sessions 2012 in Los Angeles.

BCVS Council Leadership Committee

Walter J. Koch, PhD, FAHA — Chair
Joshua M. Hare, MD, FAHA — Vice Chair

Members
Donald R. Menick, PhD — Senior Adviser
Early Career Committee
Aruni Bhatnagar, PhD, FAHA — Chair
Katz Committee
Asa Giustino, PhD — Chair, Early Career Committee

BCVS 2012 Highlights

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Coral Gables, Fla.
Michael Kugler, MD (Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston)

Monday, July 23
• Myocardial Aging
Tuesday, July 24
• Molecular regulation of adiposity
• Mitochondrial Biology
• Career Development Workshop: Molecular Signaling
• Mechanisms of Cardiac Remodeling: Fibrosis and Angiogenesis

Wednesday, July 25
• Calcium and Microbiome Signaling in the Heart
• Tissue Engineering
• Career Development Workshop: Outstanding Early Career Award Competition
• Cellular Reprogramming/Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

Thursday, July 26
• Clinical Trials in Gene and Cell Therapies
• Molecular Imaging and Nanomedicine

Visit my.americanheart.org/bcvssessions for more information.

Mark Your Calendar for Future Basic Cardiovascular Sciences Scientific Sessions

BCVS Scientific Sessions 2013
July 22–25, 2013
Las Vegas

BCVS Scientific Sessions 2014
July 14–17, 2014
Las Vegas

Mark A. Sussman, PhD, FAHA
Immediate Past President

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Walter J. Koch
PhD, FAHA