Reflecting on Two Great Years

It has been an absolute privilege to serve as the Chair of the Council on Functional Genomics and Translational Biology for the past two years. In my last message in Connections as FGTB Chair, I would like to reflect on the achievements of our relatively new Council and its membership over the past few years.

Our Early Career Committee has been a tremendous asset to the Council, making several important contributions, including organizing the Saturday Early Career Day breakout sessions at the AHA Scientific Sessions, creating podcasts, maintaining a blog, writing reviews on key papers on FGTB topics, and selecting and writing the annual top 10 FGTB research advances for Circulation: Cardiovascular Genetics. The ECC also has launched a mentoring program for early career members and is the driving force behind a new FGTB Online Education Series.

The Council has held successful Young Investigator Competition, held several more in the works.

The FGTB leadership is highly committed to the mission of AHA, as reflected by the 100 percent participation in the leadership gift campaign year after year. I would like to recognize the Chairs of the Council’s subcommittees during the past two years: Emelia J. Benjamin, MD, FAHA, for the Nominations Committee; Christopher H. Newton-Chez, MD, MPH, FAHA, for the Program Committee; Caroline S. Fox, MD, MPH, FAHA, for the Professional Education & Publications Committee; Kiran Musunuru, MD, PhD, MPH, FAHA, for the Membership & Communications Committee; and Jane F. Ferguson, PhD, FAHA, and Almudena J. Martinez-Fernandez, PhD, for the Early Career Committee.

I am especially grateful to our Council Vice Chair, Jennifer L. Hall, PhD, FAHA, who has shouldered many of the responsibilities of leading the Council during the past two years and who will become the next Chair of the Council as of July. You will be reading her messages starting with the next issue of Connections.

Again, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Chair of the FGTB Council, and I look forward to seeing the Council continue to grow and thrive in the years to come. 

Early Career Opportunities to Join

• Let us know how you would like to get involved with our Council. Submit a Volunteer Involvement Form through our website, my.americanheart.org/fgtbouncil.
• The FGTB Council’s Mentoring Program: Open for mentors and mentees.
• The AHA Early Career Group: facebook.com/groups/ahaearlycareer
• The Professional Online Network: networking.heart.org.

DON’T MISS THESE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES DURING SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS 2014

Early Career Day: Saturday, Nov. 15. FGTB Young Investigator Competition: Sunday, Nov. 16. FGTB Reception: Tuesday, Nov. 17

Register Now!
The American Heart Association’s Scientific Sessions has the BEST science and is the leading cardiovascular conference for basic, translational, clinical and population science. Join the global leaders in the cardiovascular community and register today.

Chicago

KEY DATES:

June 11 FAHA/MP registration and housing opens
June 18 Member/Media registration and housing opens
June 25 Nonmember registration and housing opens
July 9 Exhibitor/Group registration opens
Sept 3 Deadline to become an AHA/ASA Professional Member to receive early registration rates
Sept 17 Deadline for early registration rates
Oct 1 Deadline to become an AHA/ASA Professional Member to receive member registration rates
Oct 15 Deadline for advance registration rates