President's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this summer you got some much needed ‘diastole’ time with your family and loved ones.

Although not much time has elapsed since my initial call for "Emergence & Transformation", I am excited to share that we are well on our way towards that goal. To start off we had a near 100% participation in our virtual Spring Board of Directors’ meeting. We were fortunate to have ACC President Dr. Dipti Itchhaporia open with a presentation about key national ACC strategies and the importance of "Stronger Together" and an invitation to attend her “Coffee with the President” series where she discusses key strategies with national thought leaders. Afterwards I shared our tenets of transformation to be deliberate work, meaningful contributions and recognition that can help us continue to propel forward towards our
purpose of patient centered care. I called out to existing and new committee chairs or "Catalysts" to think of innovative ideas to spark transformation. California ACC Vice President Anthony Hilliard discussed how to build on areas of the CA ACC strategic plan and where Catalysts can work in alignment, as well as the importance of everyone's engagement and contribution. This was followed by a report of activities and short- and long-term plans by each committee Catalyst.

I want to invite you to visit our new website https://caacc.org/ which got a complete facelift. It is now structured around the framework I shared previously, namely Advocacy & Operations; Inclusion, Innovation & Wellness; Partnerships & Future; Sub-specialties, Education Resources and Leadership. Look out for our Communications Twitter feed (@CaliforniaACC) and organized monthly calendar among so much more! Thank you Lianna and her awesome team for turning a vision into reality.

I am excited to share some of the highlights with our ongoing work, it is not a complete list - much more is happening that I will certainly be updating you on in future communications.

- Ongoing advocacy work by our Government Relations Committee led by Dr. Teresa Daniele and PAC (Political Action Committee) now led by Past-President Dr. Norman Lepor. I highly encourage you to read updates from both in the Summer Newsletter.

- The pandemic has shown us the importance of virtual and digital communications and we are excited to welcome our new Communication Catalysts Dr. Daniel Belardo and Dr. Purvi Parwani who got involved and are implementing ideas right from the start.

- California ACC sent personal notes of congratulations to more than 70 new FACC/AACCs: that is an impressive number. We want to continue growth, so if you or someone you know who is as board-certified cardiologist, and still not an FACC then apply to become an FACC at https://www.acc.org/membership/join-us We are here to support!

- Our super star FIT Catalysts Dr Megan Pelter and Dr. Stacy Tsai from Scripps have organized first of a kind educational program, where faculty from 15 cardiology fellowships across California are participating in a Virtual Boot Camp, with lectures every Wednesday with a live Q&A. Coordinating this was not a small feat, and we should all be extremely proud of them!

- A very active Exercise/Sports Committee led by Dr. Ramin Manshadi and Dr Matthew Wheeler is working hard on tools and educational materials- look for them on our website.

- Cardio-Onc Catalyst Dr. Brenton Bauer has now held two awesome panels with Cardio-Onc leaders on the rise of CardioOncology and how to successfully build a program at your institution.

- National ACC announced first cohort of a transformative two-year leadership development program https://www.acc.org/midcareerwomensleadershipinstitute designed to support and guide CV physician women 12-21 years post fellowship. We went through our data to identify to those amazing Women in Cardiology (WIC) and did deliberate outreach to encouraged them to apply. Again, we are here to support our membership.

- We continue to partner with our CVT leaders, who will be announcing exciting details for a CME program this Fall.
I am thrilled to give you early heads up about a special “Catalysts of Empowerment: Women in Leadership” virtual event (October 28th) organized by our Treasurer and WIC Catalyst Dr. Janet Wei. We have an all-star panel of women leaders including Dr. Dipti Itchhaporia, President ACC, Eric & Sheila Samson Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Health, Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian; Dr. Rita Ng, Physician-in-Chief Kaiser Permanent Oakland; Dr Karol Watson, Director UCLA Women’s Heart Health Program and Dr. Christine Albert, Chair Department of Cardiology Smidt Heart Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Look out for future emails from California ACC for further details.

I remain thankful to my amazing partners Dr. Anthony Hilliard Vice President/ Governor Southern CA ACC and Lianna Collinge, CEO of the chapter, as this will not be possible without them. We would love to hear from you and are depending on your ideas. Please reach out to us at heart@caacc.org. If any California ACC colleague not getting this communication, encourage them to reach out and we can update with their current email.

With ever changing landscape due to the pandemic, times have remained busy and all of you continue to work so tirelessly with such grit and grace. My goal is to keep everyone abreast of what is happening in our professional organization. I am extremely grateful for the dedication and passion to those who are contributing. Let giving back to your professional society, be a source for you to find meaning in such endeavors. Whether you are taking care of patients in your own practice or in an integrated health care system or as a specialist in a tertiary academic medical center, I look toward each of you to get involved, spread the word, come up with ideas as together we can continue to create value for all of us and our patients.

With gratitude,

Jamal S. Rana MD, PhD FACC
President, California ACC
Governor Northern CA ACC
The California Legislature will be returning from their summer recess on August 16th to finish the first year of the two-year session. September 10th is the final day for bills to pass the Legislature in order to be sent to Governor Newsom who will have until October 10th to either sign or veto bills. The CA-ACC advocacy team has been busy working on a number of issues related to cardiology.

You may recall in our last newsletter the Newsom Administration, in late April, proposed expanding outcome reporting for cardiac procedures from just CABG procedures to any cardiac procedure. CA-ACC quickly jumped in action to work with the Legislature and OSHPD on our concerns. We met with OSHPD multiple times to discuss narrowing the expansion and provide more authority to the advisory committee to approve any future expansion of outcome reports. The changes are pending but we are optimistic the updated language will be signed in the next month.

**Bills CA-ACC is advocating on:**
- **AB 1278 (Nazarian)** would require physicians to disclose in writing to patients a list of drug or device companies a physician has received any payment or transfer of value received from over etc previous three years. Teresa Daniele, MD, FACC, Chair of Government Relations Committee and Past-Governor Norman Lepor, MD, FACC met with the author of the bill to walk through our concerns. The CA-ACC advocacy team will continue to push to amend the bill to address our concerns. CA-ACC is opposed to this bill.
• **AB 370 (Arambula)** would allow for certain cardiac procedures, already approved by CMS, to be done in ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs). CA-ACC leadership worked closely with the author and sponsor to ensure the appropriate patient protection measures were included in the bill. CA-ACC is in support of the bill. This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and is no longer moving forward this year.

• **SB 568 (Pan)** would lower out-of-pocket costs for consumers by requiring certain medicines and benefits used to treat chronic disease be covered without subjecting patients to a deductible. CA-ACC is in support of this bill. This bill was heard in the Assembly Health Committee but due to disagreements between the Chair of the Committee, Assemblymember Wood, the bill was held in Committee. The bill is eligible to be voted on next year.

In order to compete successfully in the health care industry, cardiologists must be involved politically, so that we can continue to provide the best possible care for our patients. Many issues, including those detailed above, occur in the California State Legislature. The CA-ACC PAC is intended to support members of the California State Legislature who share in our views of providing accessible, high quality, cost effective cardiovascular care for Californians.

CA-ACC PAC recently supported Akilah Weber, MD who was elected to the State Assembly in April to represent the 80th Assembly District in the San Diego area. Dr. Weber is an OB-GYN and is the third physician legislator serving in the California State Legislature.

CA-ACC recently met with Sion Roy, MD, cardiologist from Harbor UCLA. Dr. Roy has declared his candidacy for the 50th Assembly District in the Los Angeles area. This a great opportunity for CA-ACC PAC to support one of our own to be the fourth physician in the California State Legislature.
I am not one to provide personal investment advice, but I will make this exception. I am going to provide you inside information on an investment that is guaranteed to provide a great return. And the best part is that you are investing in your profession as cardiologists and cardiovascular professionals and the ability to maintain as much control on the future of your practice whether you are in a private setting, vertically integrated health care setting or academics.

When you invest in your California Chapter ACC Political Action Committee (PAC), you enhance the ability of colleagues like myself and others on the Government Relations Committee and the PAC committee to influence the political process in our favor. There are legislative battles going on as we speak that affect your ability to interact with other health care professionals, interfere with the patient-physician relationship and even your ability to practice Cardiology as you have been accustomed to. We have been fortunate to win most of the battles but some we have lost. Those we have lost have been related to our limited ability to support physician friendly legislative candidates and to access those who are currently holding office in the California State Assembly and Senate because of a lack of funding.

It is so hard to crack through the apathy that many of you have to be able to have a bigger impact on the legislative process than we have. I am not asking you to take time away from your practice and your family by testifying on important legislation or visit your representative in Sacramento. I am just asking for a generous investment to our PAC so you can enable those of us who are optimistic about our future and willing to take on the fight to make a bigger difference. Because I know this investment will pay off with big dividends. Please contribute generously, every single one of you and as they say, “money is the mother’s milk of politics”.

Great Investment Advice
CARDIO PAC Catalyst | Norman Lepor, MD, FACC

WWW.CAACC.ORG
SUMMER 2021 EDITION
News You Can Use

Catch Up on Chats from Around the ACC Coffee Table: Digital Health Discussion Replay Now Available

Did you miss the second chat in the Coffee with the ACC President series on July 24 that focused on digital health? The recording is now available on YouTube to catch up on the entire conversation with President Dipti Itchhaporia, MD, FACC, had with guests David C. Rhew, MD, chief medical officer and vice president of healthcare for Microsoft and Sanjeev Bhavnani, MD, FACC, practicing cardiologist and principal investigator of the Healthcare Innovation and Practice Transformation Laboratory at Scripps Clinic.

Learn more about the series and RSVP for the next gathering to be held on Aug. 21 at 10 a.m. ET on food and nutrition with guests Uma S. Valeti, MBBS, FACC, CEO/Founder of UPSIDE Foods and Kim A. Williams, Sr., MD, MACC, ACC Past President, Chief, Division of Cardiology at Rush University Medical Center, at ACC.org/ACCCoffeeTable.

Last Call For Applications: Vice Chair of ACC Annual Scientific Session, ACC.23 and ACC.24

The ACC is seeking qualified candidates to serve as vice chair for the Annual Scientific Session for ACC.23 and ACC.24. The commitment will be for a total of four years with the vice chair automatically assuming the role of chair for ACC.25 and ACC.26.

This governance model ensures consistent leadership and allows for continual improvement of the meeting. Interested candidates are encouraged to review the job description and complete the official application. A cover letter highlighting credentials that align with the criteria detailed on the job description as well as a curriculum vitae must be submitted along with the application.

Completed materials should be submitted to Jill Diamond (jidiamond@acc.org) by Monday, Aug. 2 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

Learn more and apply.
Nominate Your Colleague for an ACC Distinguished Award!

The College is accepting applications for the ACC Distinguished Awards. Those who are moving the cardiology field forward, are making advances in science and innovation, or are leaders involved in College activities, are among those that should be recognized with a Distinguished Award. ACC is proud to celebrate these members and encourage those who are changing the future of cardiology. Winners of the Distinguished Awards are recognized for their achievements worldwide and at the Annual Convocation Ceremony.

Nominations are due Sept. 20.

Learn more at ACC.org/DistinguishedAwards.

To learn more about these awards and the other awards the ACC offers, visit ACC.org/Awards.

ACC.21 On Demand Available Through Dec. 31

Thanks to all for attending and participating in the fantastic ACC.21 virtual experience! You can explore all the education from ACC.21 until Dec. 31 with on demand access.

Details at ACCScientificSession.org.

Use the code "CVTRrefer20" to recruit new CV Team members for FREE membership to ACC.

This code will be valid through August 31, 2021.
Upcoming Events

Every Wednesday through October 13, 2021

FIT Bootcamp Sessions

View calendar for details.
Register Now!

August 17, 2021

Wininovation: Strategies from the NHBLI to Support Women Entrepreneurs and Innovation

Time: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm (GMT-07:00)
Register Now!

September 10-12, 2021

5th Heart in Diabetes Hybrid CME Conference Live In-Person & Live Online Interactive

Register Now!

September 18, 2021

ULCA Heart Failure Symposium 2021: State-of-the-art Updates & Therapies for Advanced Heart Failure Live In-Person & Live Virtual Learning

Location: The Ritz-Carlton, Marina del Rey Marina del Rey, CA
Register Now!
October 7-9, 2021

**Napa Cardiology at Silverado: 11th Annual Conference**

View Agenda | View Flyer

October 14-16, 2021

**20th Annual Maui Cardiovascular Symposium**

**Location:** Fairmont Kea Lani, Maui.

More details to come.

View Brochure | View Agenda

October 16, 2021

**11th Annual Fetal Echocardiography Symposium at UCLA Conference: Clinical Tips & Pearls from the Maters Live Virtual Learning**

Presented by UCLA CME and endorsed by the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology.

View Flyer | View Website
Register Now!