

# 香港大學心臟血管研究所

THE INSTITUTE OF CARDIOVASCULAR  
SCIENCE AND MEDICINE



*2008 Annual Report*

## Mission Statement of the Institute of Cardiovascular Science and Medicine

*The Institute of Cardiovascular Science and Medicine (ICSM) commits itself to strive for excellence in research, teaching and training in cardiovascular sciences which contributes to the prevention and patient management of cardiovascular diseases in Hong Kong.*

*We shall offer the highest standards of teaching research and scholarship in an interactive environment conducive to creativity, to innovative learning and to freedom of thought, enquiry and expression in all aspects of cardiovascular sciences.*

*We shall continue to undertake research, teaching and other forms of service in clinical and basic cardiovascular sciences which will advance our quest for wisdom, truth and excellence in biomedical science at large.*

*We shall make known the mission of this Institute in Hong Kong and internationally*

# **Governance**

## **Council**

The members of the Institute elect a Council, who are responsible for carrying out the work of the Institute according to its Mission, Objectives, By-Laws and Regulations. The Council consists of the Officers, the immediate Former Director (if available), and three to ten Council Members. The Officers of the Institute are the Director, Deputy Director, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. Each Council serves the Institute for a period of two years. The Sixth Council of the Institute was elected at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2007, and remained in office throughout 2008.

### **Sixth Council of the ICSM (December 2007)**

Director:	Professor C.P. Lau	Council	Dr. M.L. Fung
Deputy		Members:	Professor Y. Huang
Director:	Professor P.M. Vanhoutte		Dr. K.L.F. Lee
Honorary			Dr. G.P.H. Leung
Secretary:	Dr. H.J. Ballard		Dr. G.R. Li
Honorary			Professor R.Y.K. Man
Treasurer:	Professor S.S.M. Chung		Dr. H.F. Tse
			Professor T.M. Wong

### **Membership Sub-Committee of the Council**

Dr. H.J. Ballard

Professor Y. Huang

## **Membership**

At the end of the year 2008, membership stood at 110, and consisted of 11 Founding Members, 38 Full Members, 9 Associate members and 52 Affiliate Members.

### **Criteria for membership**

Clinicians, scientists, researchers and students with an interest in the cardiovascular field are invited to become members of the Institute. The classes of membership open to applicants are Full, Associate or Affiliate Membership.

*All applicants for admission shall*

1. Be at least 18 years of age; and
2. Be of good character and repute; and
3. Undertake in writing to adhere to the By-Laws of the Institute, as amended from time to time.

*Applicants for admission as a Full Member shall also*

1. Be a full time or honorary teacher (Assistant Professor, Honorary Clinical Lecturer or above) of the University of Hong Kong or be deemed to be holding an equivalent position; and
2. Be engaged in research in cardiovascular science or cardiovascular medicine, as evidenced by his or her published works.

*Applicants for admission as Associates shall also*

1. Possess either a medical degree (MBBS or equivalent) plus a higher qualification (MRCP or equivalent), or a doctorate (PhD or equivalent) in science; and
2. Be engaged in research in cardiovascular science or cardiovascular medicine.

*Applicants for admission as Affiliates shall also*

1. Possess a University degree or equivalent in medicine, nursing or science; and
2. Be engaged in or have a strong interest in cardiovascular research.

Applications for membership, accompanied by the appropriate supporting documents (eg. resume, list of relevant publications, copies of certificates) should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary, to whom membership enquiries may also be addressed. The application form may be obtained by writing or e-mailing ([icsm@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:icsm@hkucc.hku.hk)) to the Honorary Secretary, or it may be downloaded from the membership section of our website (<http://www.icsm-hk.org>)

# **Research**

## **Scientific Meetings**

### **The Twelfth Annual Scientific Meeting: Cardiovascular Medicine: from conceptual research to optimal clinical practice**

The Twelfth Annual Scientific Meeting was held on December 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, thanks to generous sponsorship from Servier International. The Co-Chairmen of the Meeting were Professor Paul Vanhoutte, Professor Tse Hung Fat, Dr. George Leung and Dr. Kathy Lee, and over two hundred delegates attended this highly successful meeting. The scientific programme comprised four Symposia: the first Symposium, on “Heart Failure – Causes and Management of a Modern Epidemic” comprised invited lectures from a distinguished panel of overseas speakers, including Professor P. Ding from National Yang-Ming University Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taiwan, Professor A. Marks from Columbia University, New York, USA, Dr. G. Lerebours and Professor V. Richard from Rouen University, France, and Professor T. Lüscher from Basel University, Switzerland. The symposium closed with a case-based interactive session on “The Treatment of Heart Failure”. Three further symposia were held, featuring presentations from local faculty members. Symposium 2, entitled “New Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine”, comprised presentations from Dr. George Leung and Dr. David Siu. Symposium 3 was on the topic “Recent Advances in the Management of Cardiovascular Risk Factors” and included presentations from Professor Tse Hung Fat and Dr. Annette Tso. Symposium 4 was entitled “Evidence-based Research of Traditional Chinese Medicine”, and featured presentations by Professor Allan Lau, Dr. Aimen Xu and Dr. Li Gui Rong. The meeting also included a “Meeting the Experts” luncheon, sponsored by AstraZeneca, on the topic “Case-based Tutorial of Guideline for the Treatment of Hypertension”, with a distinguished panel of experts including Dr. A.W.K. Chan, Dr. P.C. Fong and Dr. S.K. Li. Finally, the Young Investigator Awards were sponsored by the Sun Chieh Yeh Heart Foundation: 43 abstracts were submitted by young investigators, and prizes were awarded to the best three oral communications and the best three poster presentations.

## **Press Conferences**

A press conference was held by Professor Tse Hung-fat and Dr. Will Chan Yap-hang on December 14 2008, on the topic of “Detecting blood levels of C-reactive protein”. They presented the results of recent research that reveals high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hsCRP) as a biomarker of inflammation and developing atherosclerosis. The effectiveness of the possible treatments had been evaluated, and isoflavone was introduced as a medication for secondary prevention in patients with heart disease.

## External Research Grants awarded in 2008 to members of the ICSM

Principal / Co- Investigator	Awarding Body	Project Title	Award HK\$
Dr GR Li, HKU (PI)	RGC	Calcium Signals and Cell Proliferation in Human Cardiac Fibroblasts	1,396,904
Prof. F Tang, HKU (PI)	RGC	Adrenomedullin in the male sex accessory glands: gene expression, levels and receptor binding, functions and regulation of production in the prostate, seminal vesicle and coagulating gland	958,103
Prof. PM Vanhoutte	RGC	Causes of Dysfunction in Regenerated Endothelium	996,000
Prof. X Yao CUHK (PI)	RGC	Interaction of TRPC channels with large conductance Ca <sup>2+</sup> -sensitive potassium channels in vascular smooth muscle cells	1,095,867
Prof. HF Tse (CI)	RGC	Long-term Efficacy and Safety of a Gene-based Bio-artificial Pacemaker tested in a large animal Sick Sinus Syndrome Model	1,552,000
Prof. X Yao CUHK (CI)	RGC	A Functional Study of a Calcium Channel Protein TRPM8 in Prostate Cancer	966,725
Prof. X Yao CUHK (CI)	RGC	Studies on the function and mRNA and protein expression of ion channels in the coronary endothelium related to ischemia	1,085,729

## Patent Applications

1. Li GR, Qin GW, Wang HB, Lau CP. Use of flavone as potassium channel inhibitors. US patent application No.12/039021 filed on February 29, 2008; US-2008-0214493-A1
2. Li GR, Qin GW, Wang HB, Lau CP. Use of flavone as potassium channel inhibitors. China Patent Application No. 200810092041.2 filed on February 29, 2008, 2008,10.1. CN 101273984A

## ICSM Publications in 2008

Abstracts from the Twelfth Annual Scientific Meeting (held in December 2008) were published in the October 2008 issue of the Journal of the Hong Kong College of Cardiology (Volume 16, Number 2).

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## **Publications of ICSM Members in 2008**

Al-Mashhadi RH, Skott O, Vanhoutte PM, Hansen PB. Adenosine dilates the cortical efferent arteriole of the mouse by activating A<sub>2</sub> adenosine receptors. *Kidney International* 75: 793-799, 2009.

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