THE INSTITUTE OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

2012 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 Seventh Council of the Institute was elected at the 15th Annual General Meeting on 17th September 2011, and remained in office throughout 2013.

Eighth Council of the ICSM

Director: Professor B.M.Y. Cheung
Deputy Director: Dr. H.J. Ballard
Honorary Secretary: Dr. G.P.H. Leung
Honorary Treasurer: Dr. S.W.S. Leung
Council Members: Professor Y.F. Cheung, Dr. M.L. Fung, Professor Y. Huang, Professor R.A. Li, Dr. E.H.C. Tang, Professor H.F. Tse, Professor P.M. Vanhoutte, Professor T.M. Wong, Professor X.Q. Yao
Membership

At the end of the year 2012, membership stood at 112, and consisted of 12 Founding Members, 41 Full Members, 6 Associate members and 53 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 (e.g. 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) 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 Sixteenth Annual Scientific Meeting: From Cell to Therapy 2012

The Sixteenth Annual Scientific Meeting was held on November 17th 2012 at the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, under the Co-chairmanship of Professor Bernard Cheung, Professor Paul Vanhoutte, Dr. Heather Ballard, Dr. David Siu and Dr. Susan Leung.

The meeting started in the morning with oral and poster presentations by the young investigators: 22 abstracts were submitted for the meeting, and prizes were awarded to the best oral communications and the best poster presentations. The Young Investigator Awards were sponsored by the Sun Chieh Yeh Heart Foundation.

The scientific programme in the afternoon comprised two Symposia: The topics of first Symposium included ‘Are all ARBs created equal for blood pressure management’, ‘The slower, the better’ and ‘Development of stem cell therapy product-cellgram’. The lectures were given by Professor G. Bakris from University of Chicago (USA), Dr P. Letecheur from Servier Pharmaceutical Research and Development CO (Beijing) and Dr. HS Kim from Pharmaicell (Korea). In the Second symposium, a lecture on ‘Mechanisms of somatic cell reprogramming’ was delivered by Professor MS Esteban from Chinese Academy of Sciences (Guangzhou) and another lecture on ‘Adiponectin, AMP-activated protein kinase and endothelial regeneration: mechanisms and therapeutic implications’ was given by Professor A. Xu from the University of Hong Kong.

The meeting closed with a brief address from ICSM Director, Professor Bernard Cheung, and presentation ceremony for the Young Investigator Awards.

Seminars

To encourage the interactions among younger researchers, a series of quarterly seminars on cardiovascular research was organized. The first seminar was held on 5th June 2012. The topics were ‘Surrogate markers of atherosclerosis in Research of Cardiovascular Diseases’ and ‘Prostaglandin E2 alleviates adipose tissue inflammation’, which were presented by Dr. Gary Lau, Department of Medicine of HKU and Dr. Eva Tang, Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy of HKU, respectively. The second seminar was held on 4th September 2012. The topics were ‘Propofol postconditioning confers cardioprotection by reducing peroxynitrite production: role of HO-1/STAT 3 signaling’ and ‘Calcium signaling in human embryonic stem cell derived ventricular cardiomyocytes (hESC-VCMs)’, which were presented by Mr. Xiaowen MAO from Department of Anesthesiology of HKU and by Mr Sen Li, Department of Medicine of HKU, respectively.
## External Research Grants awarded in 2012 to members of the ICSM

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<td>Professor B.M.Y. Cheung (PI)</td>
<td>RGC GRF</td>
<td>Does an elevated lipocalin-2 concentration in plasma lead to endothelial dysfunction and hypertension?</td>
<td>1,158,894</td>
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<td>Prof Y. Huang (PI)</td>
<td>RGC GRF</td>
<td>Functional importance of PPARδ and SIRT1 interaction in protecting endothelial function in diabetes and obesity</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
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<td>Dr. G.R. Li (PI)</td>
<td>RGC GRF</td>
<td>Roles of Functional Ion Channels in Migration and Proliferation of Human Cardiac c-Kit+ Cells</td>
<td>850,000</td>
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<td>Dr. E.H.C. Tang (PI)</td>
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<td>Activation of prostaglandin E receptor 4: a novel anti-inflammatory mechanism that protects against adipose tissue inflammation and obesity-related complications.</td>
<td>850,000</td>
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<td>Professor H.F. Tse (PI)</td>
<td>RGC GRF</td>
<td>Therapeutic Effects and Mechanism of Sympathorenal Axis Modulation by Catheter-based Renal Denervation in Porcine Model of Ischemic Heart Failure</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
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<td>Professor P.M.G.R. Vanhoutte (PI)</td>
<td>RGC GRF</td>
<td>Role of adipose SIRT1 in regulating systemic energy homeostasis and vascular function: focus on biotin, biotinyl enzymes and lipid metabolism</td>
<td>950,000</td>
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Abstracts from the Sixteen Annual Scientific Meeting (held in November 2012) were published in October 2012 issue of the Journal of the Hong Kong College of Cardiology (Volume 20, No. 2, pp.43-62)

ICSM publications in 2012

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