The PVD Council held its first luncheon for its members attending the spring meeting lunch on April 19. Highlights of current PVD Council activities were presented by PVD Council Chair Mary McDermott, MD, FAHA. The 2013 PVD/ATVB Council meeting will take place May 1–3 at the Dolphin Hotel, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Mark your calendars for this meeting, which will be full of stimulating presentations and activities sponsored by the PVD Council. The PVD Council is collaborating with attendees of the Vascular Research Initiative Conference to develop joint programming for the 2013 spring PVD/ATVB Council meeting.

Message From the Chair

PVD Preparing for Scientific Sessions 2012

Members of the Peripheral Vascular Disease Council participated in the third annual PVD Council Meeting in conjunction with the ATVB Council April 18–20. Highlights of that meeting included the PVD Council luncheon, joint scientific sessions with the ATVB Council and presentation of the first Robert W. Hobson Young Investigator Award. The Robert W. Hobson Young Investigator Award was established by the PVD Council and will continue to be awarded each year to the most outstanding abstract submitted by a young investigator. Nian Huang received the junior investigator award for her research presentation, titled “Collagen Topographical Patterned Modules Endothelial Cell Morphology, Gene Expression and Function.”

Save the date for the 2013 joint PVD/ATVB Council meeting, which is scheduled for May 1–3 near Orlando, Fla.

The PVD Council is actively preparing for Scientific Sessions 2012. It will host its follow-up-in-training workshop, which will include career development programming for trainees and young investigators in vascular medicine. The Council will also award the second annual Coffman Young Investigator Award for the best research abstract presented by a young investigator. Many other exciting sessions are planned for Scientific Sessions 2012, including programming on venous disease, women and peripheral artery disease and stem cell therapy for vascular disease.

The PVD Council has been developing scientific statements relevant to the field of vascular diseases. Publication of a scientific statement on ankle brachial index measurement is anticipated for 2012. A scientific statement on critical limb ischemia was recently launched, and plans for scientific statements on venous disease are in progress.

The PVD Council is also advocating for the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute K12 training programs for clinician investigators in vascular medicine. Since 2006, seven K12 training programs in the U.S. have received funding to train five to six clinician investigators per program on the study of peripheral vascular diseases. Although many of these physician scientists have not completed their K12 training, there is already evidence of this program’s success. A critical mass of former trainees has successfully applied for R01 and K23 funding from the NHLBI. Other graduates have successfully applied for AHA funding. However, funding for these programs is scheduled to end in 2013. The Council advocates these programs to improve therapies, survival and quality of life for the large and growing number of patients with peripheral vascular diseases.

Visit my.americanheart.org/pdscouncil for news about PVD Council activities. I look forward to continuing to work with you to advance science and the PVD Council’s mission.

Commitment to Junior Members

The PVD Council remains committed to promoting the careers of its junior members. Two research awards for junior investigators have been established by the Peripheral Vascular Disease Council. At the spring joint PVD/ATVB meeting, Nian Huang received the first Robert W. Hobson junior investigator award for her research presentation, titled “Collagen Topographical Patterned Modules Endothelial Cell Morphology, Gene Expression and Function.” The second annual Jay Coffman Junior Investigator Award will be presented to the junior investigator with the most outstanding research abstract at Scientific Sessions 2012. At the joint PVD/ATVB spring meeting 2013, the second annual Robert W. Hobson junior investigator award will be presented to the junior investigator with the most outstanding research abstract.

Scientific Statements

Several PVD Council working groups are developing scientific statements that summarize clinically topical issues related to peripheral vascular diseases. A scientific statement on measurement of the ankle brachial index is anticipated for publication in 2012. A new scientific statement on critical limb ischemia is under way, and the Council is working on new scientific statements pertaining to venous diseases. We encourage your participation in developing new scientific statements.

PVD Council Works With PAD Coalition

The PVD Council continues to work closely with the PAD Coalition in an alliance of more than 80 medical groups working to improve the health and care of patients with PAD. The coalition (padcoalition.org) and its parent organization — the Vascular Disease Foundation (vdf.org) — offer a variety of free online resources for clinicians and patients. Access a PAD slide library for professional and consumer talks; the PAD Exercise Training Toolkit to develop walking programs; the new Interactive Workbook on PAD for patient education, and much more.

In 2012, the coalition will focus on a critical limb ischemia initiative consisting of awareness, education, advocacy and other science-based activities to improve the care of critical limb ischemia patients. The coalition will also lead advocacy efforts to increase access to evidence-based PAD diagnostic and treatment strategies. The coalition’s annual meeting will be held Sept. 21–23 in Tysons Corner, Va., during PAD Awareness Month.

PVD and ATVB Councils Hold Third Annual Joint Meeting

The 2013 spring PVD/ATVB Council meeting will be held May 1–3. The Council on Peripheral Artery Disease First Annual Luncheon was a success.

SAVE THE DATE!

Anticoagulation, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology 2013 Scientific Sessions

May 1–3 The Dolphin Hotel | Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

The PVD Council and ATVB Council members present plenary sessions and concurrent sessions on venous thromboembolism, abdominal aortic aneurysms and carotid artery disease. The Council will join with the PAD Coalition, an affiliate of the Vascular Disease Foundation and its parent organization — the Vascular Disease Coalition, an affiliate of the Vascular Disease Coalition, an affiliate of the Vascular Disease Foundation and its parent organization — the Vascular Disease Foundation (vdf.org) — offer a variety of free online resources for clinicians and patients. Access a PAD slide library for professional and consumer talks; the PAD Exercise Training Toolkit to develop walking programs; the new Interactive Workbook on PAD for patient education, and much more.

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PVD Membership Subcommittee

Our peripheral vascular disease membership subcommittee has identified candidates for FAHA status. At the 2012 PVD/ATVB joint meeting, three new FAHAs in the PVD Council were recognized: Sus Davis, PhD, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; Naser Almazri, PhD, UCLA, and Mark R. Nehler, MD, University of Colorado, Denver. Contact Heather Gornik, membership subcommittee chairperson, if you are interested in applying for FAHA status.

The Council on Peripheral Artery Disease Chair Mary M. McDermott, MD, FAHA, and Vice Chair Michael Czuki, MD, FAHA.

Created by the Peripheral Artery Disease Council Chair Mary M. McDermott, MD, FAHA, and Vice Chair Michael Czuki, MD, FAHA.