



# ACC Fellows in Training

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## Advance Your Career at ACC.12: Fellow in Training Forum I, a Special Session *Saturday, March 24, 2012 12:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

**The ACC.12 Scientific Session in Chicago is quickly approaching!** This year, for the first time, the Fellow in Training (FIT) Forums will include a half-day session designed to bring together leaders from today and tomorrow in a way that will provide an unprecedented opportunity for current fellows to meet and interact with some of the world's greatest leaders in cardiology. This session, to be held from 12:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24th, has been completely designed by current fellows to ensure it best meets the needs of FITs everywhere. It will cover topics including finding the right job, tips on securing early career funding, how social media is changing the way in which we practice and conduct research and a panel discussion on how technology will change the future of medicine. Finally, the session will conclude with an informal "fellows-only" meet-and-greet event that will provide FITs the opportunity to meet and interact with some of the most prominent leaders in cardiology today over light refreshments without a planned agenda.

Here are the details for Saturday's special FIT Forum:

**Part I: Finding the Right Job**  
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.  
*McCormick Place, Room N227b*

A panel discussion among cardiologists representing different types of practices and career paths will feature representatives from academia, solo practice, hospital-owned cardiology groups, self-owned cardiology groups and non-traditional careers in this session. Each panel member will speak about the pros and cons of their type of practice and how health care reform has impacted their practice. After each member presents, there will be time for the audience to ask questions and compare different career options.

**Part II: Launching a Successful Career**  
2:00 p.m. – 3:15p.m.  
*McCormick Place, Room N227b*

This session will focus on the skills and resources needed to launch a successful career in cardiology. It will begin with a talk by **C. William Balke, MD, FACC** from UCSF on early career funding opportunities. Dr. Balke has written and spoken extensively on this topic and he will provide important information on ways to secure research funding that can lay the foundation for a successful career. **Bob Harrington, MD, FACC**, from the Duke Clinical Research Institute, will follow with a talk on something he is very passionate about: the use of social media to

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# Guidance for the First Steps of Your Cardiology Career at ACC.12

**As a Fellow in Training (FIT), you will soon embark on a very exciting, but potentially daunting, stage in your career.** Confronted by challenges posed by the Board exams, interviews, career options and financial planning, FITs will find valuable direction and insight from a lineup of experts in the *Fit Forum IV: Guidance for the First Steps of Your Cardiology Career* during ACC.12 in Chicago.

Navigating the course to fellowship can be intimidating as FITs are forced to tackle several important responsibilities, while simultaneously making decisions that will have long-term career implications. To assist FITs in confidently transitioning from training to their chosen career path, the session's featured speakers will provide both general advice as well as specific tips that are usually not significantly covered during fellowship training.



“A given FIT may not receive training in their program for certain portions of the examination, so a vital part of the process is recognizing those areas and studying them in detail to supplement your existing education.” **David E. Winchester, MD**

This career session will provide FITs with a foundation for proactively preparing for their future, as a series of five speakers discuss passing the ABIM's Board examination, interviewing tips, contract negotiation and sound financial planning.

With registration for cardiovascular disease Boards approaching, **David E. Winchester, MD**, from the University of Florida and **Joseph G. Murphy, MD, FACC** from Mayo

Clinic will present two perspectives on preparing and successfully passing the exams, including explaining the material and format one can expect to encounter. The presentations will also describe how to focus theoretical cardiology knowledge into the correct response and will shed light on how cardiology Board-type questions are chosen and how cardiovascular question writers think.

“A given FIT may not receive training in their program for certain portions of the examination, so a vital part of the process is recognizing those areas and studying them in detail to supplement your existing education,” says Dr. Winchester.

After FITs determine their desired professional path, they are met with many options for subsequent courses of action which will be discussed by **Susan F. Childs, FACMPE**, founder of Evolution Healthcare Consulting, in her presentation *Interviewing Tips and Contract Negotiations*. Topics will include what prospective employers are



looking for, what to ask during the interview, salary structure options, risks and more. Ms. Childs will furnish real-life considerations that will help FITs make educated decisions about practices he or she may be considering working with in the next steps of their career.



“How do you know which style or location of practice is the best for you? There are many considerations as you formalize a contractual relationship with your employment contract.”

Susan F. Childs, FACMPE

“How do you know which style or location of practice is the best for you? There are many considerations as you formalize a contractual relationship with your employment contract. This session explores options and what is most important in your

contact to protect you as you sign on the dotted line,” says Ms. Childs.

A new in-practice cardiologist will also face many challenges as they start the financial planning process. Potential solutions, as well as suggestions for prioritizing financial needs during fellowship, will be presented by financial advisors **a** and **Anders T. Ramsstad, ChFC, CLU** of Finity Group, LLC in *Financial Planning for Future Cardiologists*.

“This session will assist in narrowing the gap between the 30,000 hours of training on how to be a cardiologist and the typical five minutes of education on what to do with the money they make as a cardiologist. In our experience, the most difficult task involves prioritizing the unavoidable list of competing goals,” says Mr. Merrill.

A cardiologist’s financial plan should not be structured the same as “average” Americans, according to Mr. Merrill. In this presentation, FITs will learn how to develop a strategy that appropriately prioritizes their financial needs and maximizes the use of their disposable income. Basic tax minimizing techniques, fundamentals of

risk management and asset protection, along with other investment principles will also be highlighted.

FITs are invited to take full advantage of the forum through its discussion style structure that allots time for questions and answers between speakers.

For those who cannot attend this year’s meeting, it is worthwhile to visit the recently updated FIT webpage, [www.CardioSource.org/FIT](http://www.CardioSource.org/FIT), which features information about the ABIM Boards and career advice.



“In our experience, the most difficult task (in narrowing the gap between the 30,000 hours of training on how to be a cardiologist and the typical five minutes of education on what to do with the money they make as a cardiologist) involves prioritizing the unavoidable list of competing goals.”

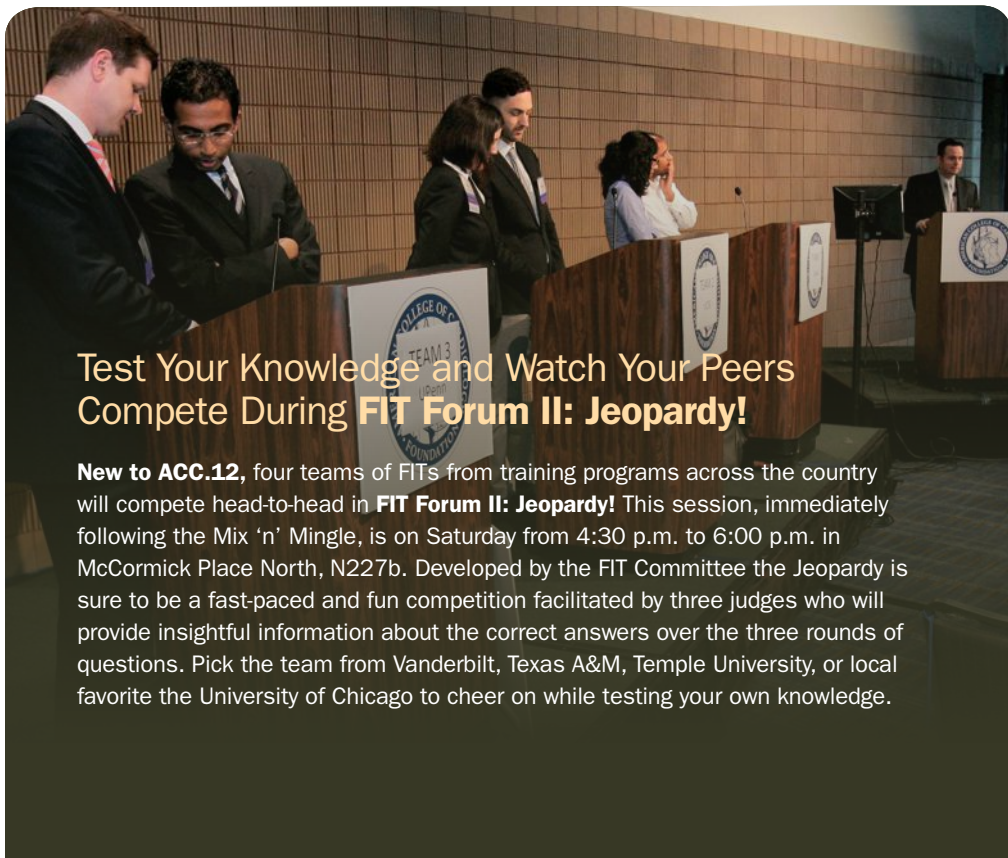
Michael F. Merrill, ChFC, CLU

The ACC strives to provide FITs with the right tools and information to succeed. Print and online resources are always available on the ACC Cardiology Careers website at [www.CardioSource.org/CardiologyCareers](http://www.CardioSource.org/CardiologyCareers).

*Fit Forum IV: Guidance for the First Steps of Your Cardiology Career* takes place on Monday, March 26, 2011 from 12:15 p.m.–1:45 p.m. in Room S402ab in the McCormick Place Convention Center. Boxed lunch will be provided to first 200 attendees. For full and up-to-minute scheduling information and planning tools, visit [www.accscientificsession.org](http://www.accscientificsession.org).

## Test Your Knowledge and Watch Your Peers Compete During FIT Forum II: Jeopardy!

**New to ACC.12**, four teams of FITs from training programs across the country will compete head-to-head in **FIT Forum II: Jeopardy!** This session, immediately following the Mix ‘n’ Mingle, is on Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in McCormick Place North, N227b. Developed by the FIT Committee the Jeopardy is sure to be a fast-paced and fun competition facilitated by three judges who will provide insightful information about the correct answers over the three rounds of questions. Pick the team from Vanderbilt, Texas A&M, Temple University, or local favorite the University of Chicago to cheer on while testing your own knowledge.





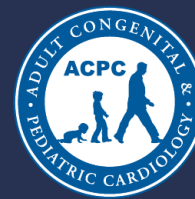
## INTRODUCING THE ACC.12 EMEETING PLANNER APP FOR IPAD, IPHONE & ANDROID!

The brand-new ACC.12 eMeeting Planner app (available for the iPad, iPhone and Android), is focused on helping attendees make the most of out of ACC.12. Easily search and browse sessions and exhibits, create an easy-to-use schedule, and navigate the convention center with animated maps. Plus, access the ACC.12 Twitter feed and local Chicago tourism information and download eBooks of the *Final Program*, *Program-At-A-Glance* and the *JACC Abstract Supplement*, and read the daily newspaper — *CardioSourceNews* from ACC.12. Search ACC.12 in your app marketplace or browse to [ativ.me/acc](http://ativ.me/acc) to download the app now!

*Interested in Pediatric, Adult Congenital & Congenital Surgery?*

*Get the Career Advice You Need at this Session*

**Fellows in Training interested in pediatric cardiology, adult congenital heart disease and/or congenital heart surgery** are invited to the following activities, which are sponsored by the ACC's Adult Congenital and Pediatric Cardiology Section (ACPC):



- How to Choose a Fourth year Fellowship
  - Finding the Right Mentor
  - Interviewing for a Job
- At the end of the session, Dr. Towbin will moderate a panel. Cardiology Chiefs at leading CHD centers will address specific issues, such as asking for a contract, funding your fellowship position and details about what an offer letter should include.

The ACPC's Career and Mentoring Session for Congenital Heart Disease Fellows in Training will be an opportunity to network with and meet many leaders in the congenital heart disease community. **Jeffrey Towbin, MD, FACC** is the program director and has developed a series of practical steps to launching a career in pediatric/congenital cardiology. Specific lectures include:

The ACPC Section Career and Mentoring session takes place, Sunday, March 25, 2012 from 12:30 p.m.–1:45 p.m. in Room N231 in the McCormick Place Convention Center. Refreshments will be provided. To sign up for this session, please kindly [RSVP here](#).

## Advance Your Career at ACC.12

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promote and conduct clinical research. Finally, Launching a Successful Career will conclude with a panel discussion on how technology will impact the future of medicine. Everything from handheld ultrasound to using electronic health records to improve patient care and research will be discussed.

### Part III: FIT Mix 'n' Mingle

3:30 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.

ACC Bistro, Booth 1104

Perhaps the most exciting part of this FIT Forum, the Meet-and-Greet will be an informal social event that will provide an unprecedented exclusive opportunity for fellows to meet some of the most prestigious leaders in cardiology today. Light refreshments will be served and there will be no planned agenda. Fellows will be free to roam the room to meet whomever they like and ask the questions they have always wanted to ask. You never know, it is sometimes these informal meetings that spark ideas and new collaborations for a lifetime.

Mark your calendars for what will truly be a special FIT Forum.





# ACC.12 Provides Secrets to Successful Medical Journal Articles

**Researchers all over the world are all vying to have their manuscripts accepted for publication in the most prestigious medical journals.** During the FIT Forum III, How to Write and Evaluate Medical Journal Articles, **Anthony DeMaria, MD, MACC**, Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, will explain the do's and don'ts of how to write publishable papers. As Editor-in-Chief of JACC for 10 years and author of over 400 papers, Dr. DeMaria offers a plethora of experience and knows what reviewers and editors look for, the most important points and strengths of a manuscript, as well as what tends to weaken a paper and will ultimately lead to rejection.

Attendees will learn strategies for designing an excellent research study from the go, as well as tips for presenting and analyzing the data, crafting the discussion and presenting the conclusions with informative figures and legends.

Tips on how to revise your manuscript if it's not up to par will be presented by **Jagat Narula, MD, FACC**, Editor-in-Chief of *JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging*, who has authored more than 300 research papers.

In addition, **Spencer B. King, MD, MACC**, Editor-in-Chief of *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* and author of over 500 papers, will be sharing the secret to a good review once your paper is published.

Each Editor will provide valuable insights on the scientific review process and attendees will walk away knowing how to make their papers stronger candidates for acceptance.

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FITs are invited to take full advantage of the forum through its discussion-style structure that allows for questions and answers between each speaker.

Come prepared with your toughest questions as you learn tips and secrets for getting your papers placed in the toughest medical journals!

**FIT Forum III: How to Write and Evaluate Medical Journal Articles** takes place on Sunday, March 25, 2012 from 12:30– 1:45 p.m. in McCormick Place North, N229. For additional scheduling information and planning tools, visit [www.accscientificsession.org](http://www.accscientificsession.org)



# Share YOUR ACC.12 Experience as a FIT Roving Reporter!

By Michael W. Cullen, MD and Jeffrey B. Geske, MD

The ACC is bringing Fellows in Training nationwide a new way to stay on top of ACC.12 in Chicago. Accessible via a link on [www.cardiosource.org/FIT](http://www.cardiosource.org/FIT), the first incarnation of the FIT Blog will cover fellow-focused news and events throughout ACC.12. The FIT Blog — created by FITs, for FITs — will contain multimedia posts, video coverage of major events, interviews with presenting FITs and constant coverage of meeting “buzz” to keep FITs around the world informed.

Posting on the FIT blog leading up to ACC.12 has already started. Viewing and commenting on posts is as easy as visiting the FIT hub and clicking on the “FITs on the GO” logo.

In addition to viewing and posting online content, FITs attending ACC.12 have the unique opportunity to participate in the development of this exciting endeavor. We are seeking volunteer Roving Reporters to deliver first-



hand, multimedia reports from ACC.12 to viewers around the country. Roving Reporters will act in teams of two, traveling throughout the conference with a microphone and camera. They will engage fellows, faculty and other attendees to deliver

the latest-breaking news from ACC.12, focusing on what co-FITs need to know. We are asking volunteers for half-day commitments (i.e. 4-6 hours at a time). No news media or video production experience is necessary and you can volunteer individually or in teams. The audio-visual equipment will be provided, as will technical tips regarding filming and a schedule of events of interest. Absolutely no experience is necessary; the only requirement is a willingness to “get out on the streets” of ACC.12, find the news that is important to your co-fellows, and share it with the rest of us. Those interested should contact Amalea Hajar [ahijar@acc.org](mailto:ahijar@acc.org).

Participating in the new FIT Blog gives fellows nationwide the opportunity to maximize the online FIT presence for ACC.12. It will also provide FITs a behind-the-scenes look at ACC.12, an opportunity to share their thoughts on new science, and chances to network with peers and colleagues.

Please join us in this exciting endeavor. We look forward to hearing from you!

# Attend an ACC Section Meeting at ACC.12!

*Advance Your Specialty,  
Network & Gain Leadership Experience*

## Connect with ACC's Member Sections during their meetings

**ACC.12!** Don't miss this opportunity to get involved with an ACC Member Section in your specialty. Sections provide a unique blend of forum and network for members with specific clinical or professional interests and are FREE for all FITs. Join to take advantage of leadership opportunities within the College on a smaller scale, to network with colleagues established in your chosen specialty and advance the priorities of your chosen specialty. The meetings below are open for all to attend, and provide a great opportunity to learn more about what each Section has done & their plans for the future.

Learn more about each of the Member Sections at [www.CardioSource.org/YourCommunity](http://www.CardioSource.org/YourCommunity). Join on site at ACC.12 or by calling the Resource Center at 202-375-6000, ext. 5603.

Section meetings are as follows:



### Academic Cardiology:

Sunday, March 25th, 6:00 p.m.,  
Hyatt McCormick Place, Regency A



### Adult Congenital & Pediatric Cardiology:

Saturday, March 24th, 6:00 p.m.,  
Hilton Chicago, Continental A/B.



### Geriatric Cardiology:

Saturday, March 24th, 6:00 p.m.,  
Hilton Chicago, Marquette Room



### Imaging Cardiology:

Sunday, March 25th, 6:00 p.m.,  
Hyatt McCormick Place, CC24 A/B/C.



### Interventional Cardiology:

Sunday, March 25th, 6:00 p.m.,  
Hyatt McCormick Place, CC 23.



### Sports & Exercise Cardiology:

Friday, March 23rd from 7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.  
at the Hilton Chicago, Marquette Room.



### Women in Cardiology:

Sunday, March 25th at 6:00 p.m.  
Hilton Chicago, Willford A.