

DISTINGUISHED AWARDEES

THE ACC'S DISTINGUISHED AWARDS WERE ESTABLISHED TO RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CARDIOVASCULAR PROFESSION.

ON THE PAGES THAT FOLLOW, YOU WILL FIND CITATIONS DESCRIBING THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY EACH OF THIS YEAR'S AWARDEES.

VISIT [ACC.ORG/CONVOCATION](https://acc.org/convocation) TO WATCH VIDEOS FROM EACH OF THESE AWARDEES AND FOR MORE INFORMATION. JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING THESE INDIVIDUALS ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITH #ACC24

CHAIR, 2024 ACC AWARDS COMMITTEE

Sharonne N. Hayes, MD, FACC

PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

Robert M. Califf, MD, MACC

Silver Spring, MD

DISTINGUISHED FELLOW

Sandra J. Lewis, MD, FACC

Portland, OR

DISTINGUISHED TEACHER

Nitish Badhwar, MBBS, FACC

Palo Alto, CA

GIFTED EDUCATOR

Payal Kohli, MD, FACC

Denver, CO

DISTINGUISHED MENTOR

Thomas Marwick, MD, PhD, FACC

Melbourne, Australia

DISTINGUISHED CARDIOVASCULAR TEAM MEMBER

Andrea Price, MS, RCIS, CPHQ, AACC

Zionsville, IN

PAMELA S. DOUGLAS DISTINGUISHED AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Herman Taylor, Jr., MD, FACC

Atlanta, GA

VALENTIN FUSTER AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN SCIENCE

Peter Libby, MD, FACC

Boston, MA

DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST (BASIC DOMAIN)

Elizabeth McNally, MD, PhD, FACC

Chicago, IL

DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST (CLINICAL DOMAIN)

Sumeet Chugh, MD, FACC

Santa Monica, CA

DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST (TRANSLATIONAL DOMAIN)

Michelle Albert, MD, MPH, FACC

Hillsborough, CA

DOUGLAS P. ZIPES DISTINGUISHED YOUNG SCIENTIST

Emily S. Lau, MD, FACC

Boston, MA

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Monica Acevedo, MD, FACC

Santiago, Chile

BERNADINE HEALY LEADERSHIP IN WOMEN'S CV DISEASE

Harmony Reynolds, MD, FACC

New York, NY

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Suzanne Oparil, MD, FACC

Birmingham, AL

MASTERS OF THE ACC (MACC)

Claire Duvernoy, MD, FACC

Ann Arbor, MI

Daniel José Piñeiro, MD, FACC

Buenos Aires, Argentina

M. Eugene Sherman, MD, FACC

Englewood, CO

B. Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC

Charlotte, NC

DISTINGUISHED AWARDEE CITATIONS

ROBERT M. CALIFF, MD, MACC

Presidential Citation

Each year, the ACC Presidential Citation is awarded to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of cardiology and/or the broader field of medicine. This year, the Presidential Citation recognizes Dr. Robert Califf for his unwavering commitment to promoting and protecting public health and reducing the burden of cardiovascular disease.

An accomplished cardiologist, researcher and clinical trials expert, Dr. Califf has been a driving force in the fight against heart disease and other chronic diseases throughout his career. Currently serving his second appointment as Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Dr. Califf has a long and impressive history of prioritizing science and evidence-based policymaking in the best interests of patients and the public.

Prior to rejoining the FDA, Dr. Califf was head of medical strategy and senior advisor at Alphabet Inc., contributing to strategy and policy for its health subsidiaries Verily Life Sciences and Google Health. He joined Alphabet in 2019, after serving as a professor of medicine and vice chancellor for clinical and translational research at Duke University. He also served as director of the Duke Translational Medicine Institute and founding director of the Duke Clinical Research Institute.

"It is a true privilege to be able to honor Dr. Califf's unparalleled leadership and vision with the Presidential Citation," said ACC President B. Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC. "A true problem-solver, champion of innovation and a steadfast advocate of improving heart health for all, the world needs more individuals like him as we work to successfully address the formidable public health challenges that have emerged in the last few decades."

B. Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC

SANDRA J. LEWIS, MD, FACC

Distinguished Fellow

With service to the College that extends over four decades and across many areas of the College, Dr. Sandra Jean Lewis is the embodiment of the Distinguished Fellow Award.

Her involvement with the ACC started in 1981 as one of the inaugural winners of the Merck Research Fellowship Award. Since then, and for more than 40 years, she has served in many capacities, currently serving on the Board of Trustees.

In every role, Dr. Lewis makes an indelible impact. As co-chair of the ACC Leadership Forum, she led the evolution of the program from a single meeting to a year-long program and as the ACC Political Action Committee (HeartPAC) chair, she significantly impacted our colleagues and patients.

In her role as chair of the Section Steering Committee, she helped the Sections to standardize charters and increased member engagement through development of a shared vision. She consolidated more than 100 workgroups into seven sections, increasing the potential for collaboration, advocacy involvement and staff efficiencies. Additionally, Dr. Lewis was also essential in bringing together stakeholders to develop a process for manuscript production from the Sections to be published in *JACC*, finding opportunities for collaboration, and clarifying *JACC* publication pathways for the Sections.

She has also been an indefatigable advocate for women. Dr. Lewis led the publication of the third WIC Professional Life Survey, which provided the first data on burnout in women in cardiology and revealed that two-thirds of women experienced discrimination—almost three times more than men. Because of this work, the College set priorities for ongoing work on diversity in cardiology, identified workforce challenges and outlined opportunities for improvement.

One of the most significant contributions Dr. Lewis has made is the establishment of the Sandra J. Lewis Mid-Career Women's Leadership Institute for women cardiologists. Thanks to her generous support, the program is empowering mid-career women cardiovascular physicians with the essential skills, tools and dedicated support to flourish during this distinct and exciting phase of the career journey. The program positively changed the lives of all the women enrolled in its inaugural year and is now welcoming its second cohort.

Dr. Lewis has been a model of dedicated and effective leadership for the College and is more than deserving of this year's award.

Annabelle Santos Volgman, MD, FACC

NITISH BADHWAR, MBBS, FACC

Distinguished Teacher Award

Dr. Badhwar has dedicated his career to being an exceptional teacher, a master clinician in arrhythmia medicine and an innovative investigator. I can think of no individual more deserving of the ACC Distinguished Teacher Award.

Dr. Badhwar has had a long and distinguished career. He is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Electrophysiology (EP) Fellowship training program at Stanford University, and was previously Director of the Cardiac Electrophysiology fellowship training program at the University of California, San Francisco.

Dr. Badhwar is a tireless educator who continually strives to share an understanding of the beauty, simplicity and complexity within intracardiac electrograms, their relationship to disease mechanisms and how critically synthesizing complex data can dramatically improve outcomes. Dr. Badhwar is a proponent of the Socratic approach, encouraging trainees to meticulously dissect clinical data and the electrophysiological record details to develop treatment plans.

Throughout his career, Dr. Badhwar has been dedicated not only to the professional growth of his trainees, but also their personal growth and well-being. He pioneered the use of novel teaching techniques such as thoughtful use of heart specimens to explain the anatomical basis of arrhythmias and potential ablation approaches, now integrated into fellowship teaching programs internationally. Dr. Badhwar developed cross-disciplinary collaborations that exposed trainees to new strategies, including innovative practical approaches to hybrid surgical therapy. He is a sought-after speaker at institutional and societal forums, and fellows' programs internationally. As a testament to his success, his trainees have gone on to successful academic and entrepreneurial careers, and many continue to refer their trainees for additional mentorship.

Dr. Badhwar's enthusiasm, creativity and passion have resulted in pioneering work to define mechanisms for supraventricular and ventricular tachyarrhythmias, and novel strategies for their amelioration and cure. Dr. Badhwar is a master clinician and "go-to" resource for peers and trainees alike, and a model of collaboration who regularly travels within and outside the U.S. to offer practical help with difficult cases. He has published well over two hundred peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, has received extramural funding by several agencies, and has served in various editorial roles including Associate Editor for *Circulation: Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology*.

In summary, Dr. Badhwar epitomizes the type of mentor who leads by example. With his remarkable dedication to teaching, scientific excellence and advocacy for trainees, his receipt of the 2024 ACC Distinguished teacher award is well deserved.

Sanjiv Narayan, MD, PhD, FACC

PAYAL KOHLI, MD, FACC

Gifted Educator Award

In recognition of her many contributions in education of physicians, cardiac care team members, and the lay public in the field of cardiovascular medicine, Payal Kohli, MD, FACC has been selected to receive ACC's Gifted Educator Award.

To ACC members, she is well known for her contributions to *ACC.org* for the clinical trials wrap-up videos that accompany key findings from large cardiovascular meetings held both in the United States and Europe. She has also been a regular among the presenters at the ACC's international programs including those in China and India.

In addition to the education of her peers and medical trainees, she is passionate about educating the public about heart disease and its prevention. As a media correspondent for a national broadcasting company, Dr. Kohli has had over 2,000 on air appearances in the past several years both locally and nationally to educate patients and families on the most evidenced-based approach to preventing, diagnosing and treating heart disease. She has won awards from a local news station for her on screen presence and has been featured as a medical expert on a very important movie entitled *How Can You Die of a Broken Heart?* which has been showcased at multiple film festivals.

She was also selected from her peers to serve on the ACC/ABIM board writing committee and self-assessment program. It was fitting that Dr. Kohli was appointed by the American College of Cardiology to its fourth Leadership Academy Class. Dr. Payal Kohli is an incredible educator, physician, and a scientist. Her contributions in education over the years have reached literally tens of thousands of individuals and her impact is almost too large to measure.

Kim Eagle, MD, MACC

THOMAS MARWICK, MD, PHD, FACC

Distinguished Mentor Award

For the remarkable impact his mentorship has had on the careers of his entire nominating team, it is absolutely thrilling to honor Dr. Thomas Marwick as the winner of this year's Distinguished Mentor Award.

Dr. Marwick is an inspiring personality who attracts learners at all levels, including sonographers, undergraduate and medical students, residents and advanced cardiac imaging fellows. He motivates his learners to carefully think about the impact of their research work, promoting a culture of responsible science. His prowess as a mentor is exemplified by the success of his mentees, many of whom have important leadership positions. His mentees have won research awards and national grant competitions, published impactful original research and have contributed to clinical practice guidelines.

The collective amount of science generated by Dr. Marwick and his mentees has had an impact on millions of individuals globally with cardiovascular disease. One of the most important characteristics of Dr. Marwick as a mentor is his generosity with time. He has the unique ability to identify specific talents in his trainees and early career faculty and provide them with personalized guidance and resources. He advocates on behalf of his mentees to ensure that they are considered for various global leadership positions. He also knows when to step back allowing those under his mentorship to shine while continuing to support them from behind the scenes to promote their continuous success.

In summary, there is no one more deserving of the Distinguished Mentor Award than Dr. Marwick. Future cardiovascular imaging research will forever be impacted by Dr. Marwick through the numerous thought leaders that he has mentored throughout his career.

Paaladinesh Thavendiranathan, MD, MSc, FACC

ANDREA L. PRICE, MS, RCIS, CPHQ, AACC

Distinguished Cardiovascular Team Member

In recognition of her impressive contributions developing and advancing the cardiovascular team within the College, and for her involvement in a plethora of activities advancing the Mission of the ACC, Andrea Price is a most deserving recipient of this year's Distinguished Cardiovascular Team Member Award.

As chair of the Cardiovascular Team Section Leadership Council, Ms. Price has been incredibly effective in encouraging and nurturing the ACC's approach to team-based care. Ms. Price was instrumental in the creation of the CV Team Quality Award. She helped update the health policy statement on Cardiovascular Team-Based Care and the Role of Advanced Practice Providers, created a podcast series focusing on CV team professionals, developed a strategic partnership with the Competency and Crediting Institute reaching a new constituency of allied health CV team professionals, and launched a volunteer effort to address CV team member burnout while increasing member involvement within the Section.

In addition to chairing the ACC Reduce the Risk: PCI Bleeding Quality Campaign, Ms. Price has served with distinction on numerous committees within the College in the arena of science and quality, including within the NCDR, cath lab accreditation, health information technology and serving on the 2023 ACC Nominating Committee, the Task Force Enhancing Member Engagement, the CV Workforce Task Force and as a peer reviewer of multiple ACC documents.

Andrea Price is a selfless and tireless leader, and an incredibly personable, empathic individual with a quick wit and sense of humor. Her devotion to the CV team and to cardiovascular quality improvement are ingrained in her persona. She has made the ACC a stronger and more effective institution in delivering on our mission to transform CV care. She embodies all the qualities and accomplishments that merit her recognition as the 2024 Distinguished Cardiovascular Team Member Awardee.

Ralph G. Brindis, MD, MPH, MACC

HERMAN TAYLOR, JR., MD, FACC

Pamela S. Douglas Award for Leadership in Diversity & Inclusion

Dr. Herman Taylor, Jr. has been a major protagonist for advancing diversity, health equity, and inclusion through science and direct action. His distinguished career arc has included outstanding contributions as a researcher, a clinician, and a thought leader in the study of racial healthcare disparities. For these accomplishments and more, it is fitting that he is the recipient of the 2024 Pamela S. Douglas Distinguished Award for Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion.

While he is a prolific scientist who has authored more than 240 manuscripts, as well as a renowned clinician-educator, he is perhaps most widely known as the founding director of the National Institute of Health (NIH) landmark study of African American heart health and disease—the Jackson Heart Study. As the principal investigator of this incredibly impactful study, he helped to establish the world’s foremost repository of multilayered data on African American heart health.

Dr. Taylor is a master educator and frequent keynote lecturer at national and international conferences, and he is a beloved mentor to students, residents, fellows and public health researchers. He is the exemplar of a physician-scientist who is on a mission to improve medicine and cardiology for all people at risk of heart disease, and he is determined to pay it forward by ensuring the next generation of physicians and scientists are equipped with tools to support equitable health for all.

He currently leads the Cardiovascular Research Institute at the Morehouse School of Medicine where he is mentoring the next generation of physician-scientists who, like him, will impact minority health for many decades to come.

We are fortunate that he is the recipient of this year’s ACC Distinguished Leadership Award for Diversity and Inclusion.

Quinn Capers, IV, MD, FACC

PETER LIBBY, MD, FACC

Valentin Fuster Award for Innovation in Science

As a leader in cardiovascular medicine and atherosclerosis, and with his work advancing science and transforming care, Peter Libby is an exemplary recipient of this year’s Valentin Fuster Award for Innovation in Science.

Dr. Libby pioneered the contemporary understanding of inflammation in atherosclerosis. He discovered the ability of endothelium and smooth muscle to express pro-inflammatory cytokines such as interleukin (IL)-1. These observations established the basis of autocrine and paracrine pro-inflammatory signaling by cytokines in the arterial wall. Dr. Libby also discovered auto-induction of IL-1 in vascular cells, a positive feedback loop, along with the vascular induction of IL-6 by IL-1, a further potent amplification loop in innate immunity. IL-6 causes hepatocytes to overexpress fibrinogen, and plasminogen activator inhibitor - 1, mechanisms of enhanced thrombosis during inflammation. IL-6 also triggers the production of C-reactive protein (CRP), a biomarker of inflammation that served to allocate statins effectively in primary prevention in the JUPITER study that Dr. Libby helped to establish and lead.

He initiated and helped to lead the first clinical trial that showed that anti-inflammatory therapy can improve cardiovascular outcomes (CANTOS), that targeted IL-1 β , proving a hypothesis he published in 1986. IL-6 has entered a large-scale cardiovascular outcome trial currently underway. He further discovered molecular mechanisms of plaque rupture, and then discovered that lipid lowering mitigates these pathogenic pathways.

Dr. Libby led the understanding of the immunopathogenesis of accelerated arteriosclerosis in cardiac allografts. He also described a sustained inflammatory response to arterial injury, a foundation for the use of drug-eluting stents. He has also helped pioneer understanding of the cardiovascular consequences of somatic mutations in certain leukemia driver genes that spur their clonal expansion.

In sum, Dr. Libby's basic research has led the field of inflammation and innate immunity in vascular biology and atherosclerosis. He has played major roles in the clinical translation of his fundamental discoveries to seminal large-scale clinical trials, proving the inflammation hypothesis of atherosclerosis in humans, and opening new therapeutic opportunities for treatment of this leading human disease.

Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD, MACC

CHRISTINE E. SEIDMAN, MD

Valentin Fuster Award for Innovation in Science

I am honored to present the 2023 Valentin Fuster Award for Innovation in Clinical Science to Dr. Seidman. She is an extraordinary physician-scientist who has contributed an impressive body of scientific research to the field of cardiovascular medicine, evolving from basic science to clinical areas.

Alongside her husband, Jon Seidman, PhD, she pioneered the discovery of the genetic basis for heart muscle disorders, including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) and dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) and congenital heart disease (CHD). The discovery led to the development of gene-based diagnoses that provide early and accurate assignment of disease causality, identify individuals at risk for developing disease, and improve opportunities to prevent adverse outcomes. By building experimental models with human mutations and direct interrogation of human cardiomyopathy tissues, she uncovered underlying mechanisms for disease pathophysiology and developed targeted therapeutics. These insights also led to a new FDA-approved HCM medicine, mavacamten. With this, there is now a real prospect for preventing the progression to heart failure that occurs in many HCM patients.

Dr. Seidman's research efforts continue to push innovative therapeutic strategies for genetic heart muscle diseases. Using molecular strategies to selectively deliver nucleic acid editors and nucleases to cardiomyocytes in preclinical disease models, she recently reported the successful correction and silencing of an HCM mutation. This opportunity holds the promise for a single intervention that provides a lasting cure not only for HCM, but for any genetic heart muscle disease.

Amid these important scientific contributions, Dr. Seidman has trained and mentored an outstanding cadre of basic and translational scientists dedicated to cardiovascular research. These are considered her most valued accomplishments and lasting legacy. It is truly a privilege to recognize her with the 2023 Valentin Fuster Award.

Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD, MACC

ELIZABETH MCNALLY, MD, PHD, FACC

Distinguished Scientist Award (Basic Domain)

For her seminal contributions to our understanding of the genetic underpinnings of cardiomyopathies that have made a profound impact on clinical practice and outcomes, Dr. Elizabeth McNally is a most deserving recipient of the Distinguished Scientist Award in the Basic Domain.

Dr. McNally currently directs the Center for Genetic Medicine at Northwestern University. Under her expert leadership, their cardiac genetics program has gained national recognition, representing a collaboration of over 100 faculty members from more than 30 departments, with millions of dollars in annual research funding. She also leads the Cardiovascular Genetics Program at the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute, where she provides care to patients and families with inherited forms of heart disease.

Her research focus on myopathic disorders, encompassing both skeletal and cardiac aspects, has paved the way for potential therapies for muscular dystrophy and various cardiomyopathies. Her laboratory developed the first genetically engineered model of cardiomyopathy and muscular dystrophy in the form of Sgcg null mice, which she used to identify modifiers of myopathic disorders that are helping to develop biologically-driven therapies. Her laboratory is currently studying how to modify TGF β activity through its extracellular regulation, as well as whether recombinant annexin A6 can be used to promote cellular repair.

Beyond her scientific achievements, Dr. McNally is a fervent advocate for diversity and mentorship. Her research lab and cardiovascular genetics program are beacons of inclusivity, with nearly 50% of her trainees being women, and a remarkable two-thirds of her trainees entering academic medicine. Within the ACC, she has been a staunch supporter of the Women in Cardiology Programs and the Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, a testament to her commitment to fostering a more diverse and inclusive cardiology community.

Her editorial service has been instrumental in disseminating critical research findings and promoting excellence in cardiology, and she has published more than 310 publications that are focused on cardiovascular genetics. She is also the current editor for the *Journal of Clinical Investigation* and previously served as an Associate Editor for *JAMA Cardiology*.

Dr. McNally epitomizes the best in discovery science, and her research has a tangible impact on patient care. We are honored to recognize her with the Distinguished Scientist Award in the Basic Domain.

Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc, MACC

SUMEET CHUGH, MD, FACC

Distinguished Scientist Award (Clinical Domain)

For the tremendous impact his work has had on the field around sudden cardiac death (SCD), we are proud to recognize Dr. Sumeet Chugh with the Distinguished Scientist Award in the Clinical Domain.

Dr. Chugh currently serves as Associate Director of the Smidt Heart Institute and Director of the Heart Rhythm Center at Cedars-Sinai, Los Angeles, where he holds the Pauline and Harold Price Professorial Chair in Cardiac Electrophysiology. His unbroken track record of peer-reviewed academic funding from NIH and other agencies has led to authorship of more than 265 papers that have garnered ~100,000 citations.

Dr. Chugh's signature scientific contribution has been his development of new insights into the epidemiology and prevention of sudden cardiac death. Working from scratch, Dr. Chugh set up large community-based learning systems that connected first responder data, the electronic health record, and a purpose-built biobank. These systems made it possible to study and adjudicate sudden deaths one at a time in populations of over one million, and leveraging the full richness of the medical record, transcending traditional death certificate data.

Chugh's revolutionary studies yielded amazing clinical, genomic and proteomic information from large populations in real time, enabling him, his trainees and collaborators to develop a novel clinical risk score for SCD that is stimulating new clinical trials for SCD prevention.

Other seminal contributions include the recognition of warning symptoms in the hours and days preceding imminent SCD, which ushered in the concept of "near-term prevention", with implementation being facilitated by cutting-edge artificial intelligence tools. Chugh's recent work on augmenting risk stratification for underrepresented population subgroups, including women, Hispanic populations and youth patient populations, has also made a major impact on the field.

In recognition of his scholarly contributions, Dr. Chugh is an elected member of the two most prestigious honorary societies in internal medicine: the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians. He is also past president of the Association of University Cardiologists and the Cardiac Electrophysiology Society. In summary, Sumeet Chugh is a visionary clinician-scientist, celebrated mentor and academic thought leader.

Eduardo Marbán, MD, PhD, FACC

MICHELLE A. ALBERT, MD, MPH, FACC

Distinguished Scientist Award (Translational Domain)

Michelle A. Albert, MD, MPH, FACC is an internationally acclaimed cardiovascular scientist for her fundamental work seeking to elucidate social and biological pathways that link adversity to health, i.e "the biology of adversity". Michelle's trailblazing research demonstrates how synergistic institutional, behavioral and socioenvironmental factors result in inflammation, thrombosis and cardiovascular morbidity especially in vulnerable populations.

Dr. Albert is the Walter A. Haas Lucie Stern Endowed Chair and Professor in Cardiology and is the founding director of the UCSF Center for the Study of Adversity and Cardiovascular Disease (NURTURE Center); she also serves as admissions dean for the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine. She is one of the pre-eminent leaders in cardiovascular medicine having served as president of the American Heart Association, the Association of University Cardiologists and the Association of Black Cardiologists. She is the first person in history to collectively serve as president of these three prestigious societies.

A core strength of Dr. Albert's research and overall professional career relates to the interdisciplinary nature of her work. She has multiple firsts related to research assessing the interplay of race and ethnicity with inflammatory and genetic biomarkers of hemostasis and with cardiovascular outcomes in the JUPITER trial. She was also first author and scientific director of the PRINCE trial, the first primary prevention trial about inflammation and cardiovascular disease. Another thematic element of her distinguished research scholarship and numerous publications pertains to how chronic and cumulative psychosocial stressors across the life-course such as socioeconomic status, neighborhood stress and discrimination impact cardiometabolic and cardiovascular outcomes leveraging a diverse portfolio of NIH funded cohort studies including the Women's Health Study, Black Women's Health Study, Dallas Heart Study, Jackson Heart Study, Multi-ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis and Physicians Health Study to name a few.

Dr. Albert has sustained funding as a principal investigator and she has received numerous prestigious research awards, delivered numerous national and international presentations and named honorary professorships and lectures, including the 2021 ACC Louis F. Bishop Keynote Lecture and AHA Presidential Conner Lecture. She has an honorary doctorate in science from the University of Rochester. Michelle is also widely known as a wonderful and generous mentor and has been awarded the ACC Credo Award and the AHA Women in Cardiology Mentoring Award.

In summary, Dr. Albert is one of the very best cardiovascular physician-scientist-epidemiologists of her generation with an impressive record of research and professional accomplishment that is moving healthcare forward making her uniquely deserving of the Distinguished Scientist Award.

Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD, MACC

EMILY S. LAU, MD, FACC

Douglas P. Zipes Distinguished Young Scientist

I can think of no one more deserving who embodies the central tenets of the Douglas P. Zipes Distinguished Young Scientist Award than Dr. Emily Lau.

As a physician-scientist, Dr. Lau has made outstanding contributions to the field of women's cardiovascular disease (CVD). Her work has centered on understanding how biologic sex differences contribute to the pathogenesis of CVD in women, with a specific focus on immunometabolic mechanisms predisposing to CVD and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF). Dr. Lau has demonstrated notable sex differences in circulating biomarkers representing pathways of inflammation and adiposity that are overexpressed in women vs. men, which in turn may underlie disease susceptibility to HFpEF and cardiopulmonary physiology unique to women compared with men. She also demonstrated that infertility predisposes women to future risk of HFpEF but not HFrEF, independent of known CV risk and other reproductive factors. Her body of work has highlighted the importance of female-specific factors as contributors to CVD. She is the recipient of an NIH K23 Career Development Award and an AHA Career Development Award to further investigate immunometabolic mechanisms leading to CVD in women.

What makes Dr. Lau so special beyond her research accomplishments is her deep commitment to engagement, mentorship and her active advocacy of trainees and women in cardiology. It is a testament to her dedication to this mission, that she was awarded the inaugural 2020 Women in Medicine Trainee's Council Excellence in Leadership Award by the Department of Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital.

In sum, Dr. Lau has excelled in developing and leading a research program with a clear focus on CVD in women. Her academic track record coupled with her passion for clinical medicine, mentorship, and advocacy for women in cardiology make her a truly extraordinary recipient of the Douglas P. Zipes Distinguished Young Scientist Award.

Jennifer E. Ho, MD, FACC

MONICA ACEVEDO, MD, FACC

International Service Award

Dr. Acevedo is a luminary in the medical field, marked by her exemplary contributions and leadership, and a deserving recipient of this year's International Service Award.

Dr. Acevedo completed medical training, residency and cardiology fellowship at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, concluding in 1995. Expanding her horizons, she pursued a second fellowship in cardiology at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation in 2001.

Currently, Dr. Acevedo holds pivotal roles at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, serving as professor of medicine, section head for preventive cardiology and women's cardiovascular health, section director for cardiac rehabilitation, and academic director of the fellowship in cardiology. Additionally, she plays a significant role at Red UC-Christus, Santiago, Chile, holding positions as a staff cardiologist, head of the women and cardiovascular disease program, and head of the section of preventive cardiology and cardiac rehabilitation.

Her research spans a wide spectrum, including preventive cardiology, women and heart disease, noninvasive methods of subclinical atherosclerosis and more. Notably, she secured research grants from the American Heart Association in 2014 and Teva Pharmaceuticals in 2016, focusing on innovative approaches to promoting ideal cardiovascular health in women.

Dr. Acevedo's impact extends beyond academia, with over 100 published papers, including contributions to the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. Her commitment to knowledge dissemination is evident through book chapters and numerous talks at local and international conferences.

With a rich tapestry of accolades, including the Best Latin American Abstract Award from the American Heart Association in 2018, Dr. Acevedo's leadership extends to executive positions in cardiovascular societies, foundations and the Chilean government. Her contributions have earned recognition from the Chilean Society of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery, emphasizing her influence in shaping cardiovascular health policies nationally and internationally.

Beyond her impressive professional portfolio, Dr. Acevedo is a dedicated mentor and educator. She has been involved in educational programs since 2015, including certification courses in gynecologic endocrinology, diabetes, and sports medicine. Her commitment to nurturing the next generation of health care professionals solidifies her standing as a distinguished figure in the field of medicine.

C. Noel Bairey Merz, MD, MACC

HARMONY REYNOLDS, MD, FACC

Bernadine Healy Leadership in Women's CV Disease Award

Dr. Harmony Reynolds is an accomplished academic clinical investigator, educator and clinician, and has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to investigating cardiovascular disease in women. She exemplifies what Bernadine Healy valued and is a perfect example of Bernadine's enduring legacy. I had the privilege of being mentored by Bernadine, and of mentoring Harmony.

Dr. Reynolds is an internationally recognized expert in mechanisms, outcomes and treatment strategies for ischemic heart disease in women. She serves as director of the AHA-funded Sarah Ross Soter Center for Women's Cardiovascular Research at the New York University Grossman School of Medicine. The work of this center resulted in important understanding of myocardial infarction with non-obstructive coronary arteries (MINOCA). She is a member of the writing group for the AHA Scientific Statement on MINOCA and the European Society of Cardiology's position paper on management of MINOCA. She led a multi-center AHA-supported study, HARP, demonstrating that a cause of MINOCA could be identified in 85% of women using multi-modality imaging. This work is cited in society guidelines and statements.

Dr. Reynolds is also an expert at another ischemic condition that predominantly affects women: Stable ischemia with no obstructive coronary artery disease (INOCA). She was principle investigator for the NHLBI-funded CIAO-ISCHEMIA, a study of the clinical course of chest pain and stress-induced ischemia in patients with INOCA. She has a leadership role in all aspects of the ISCHEMIA trial, and ISCHEMIA EXTEND. ISCHEMIA was included as evidence to support several ACC/AHA and ESC Guideline recommendations on chronic coronary disease and the evaluation of chest pain.

Dr. Reynolds is a highly committed and talented educator. She has mentored dozens of graduate students, residents, cardiology fellows and junior faculty. Many of her mentees went on to build highly successful careers in clinical practice and research. She is a highly sought-after speaker due to her excellent communication skills, original contributions and vast clinical expertise.

In addition to her accomplishments in research and education, Dr. Reynolds has a busy clinical practice that focuses on women with cardiovascular disease. She receives referrals for MINOCA and INOCA assessment and management from physicians across the country and from abroad, as well as local referrals.

Judith Hochman, MD, FACC

SUZANNE OPARIL, MD, FACC

Lifetime Achievement Award

With her immense contributions to cardiovascular disease research, particularly in hypertension, Suzanne Oparil, MD, FACC is undoubtedly a most fitting recipient for the American College of Cardiology (ACC) Lifetime Achievement Award.

Her longstanding dedication to the ACC and exemplary career in medicine have made her a role model for many students, physicians and researchers. As a distinguished professor of medicine, Dr. Oparil has been a leading figure in cell development, integrated biology, vascular biology and hypertension.

She has been an outstanding contributor to the ACC, addressing hypertension—the most powerful predictor of cardiovascular disease. Her significant roles include chair of the Hypertensive Disease Committee, chapter editor for the work group to write ACCSAP V, member of both the ACC/AHA Joint Officers Committee and the Hypertension and Prevention Spotlight Committee, as well as various other influential positions within the College, such as involvement in the Education Committee, the Extramural Continuing Education Committee, and the Hypertension in the Elderly Expert Consensus Document. Additionally, she served as a member of the Lifelong Learning Oversight Committee Faculty Development Working Group and the Publications Committee, and was a representative of the NHLBI from 2002-2007. Her steadfast commitment to the ACC and cardiovascular medicine exemplifies a lifetime of excellence and leadership.

In a field historically dominated by men, Dr. Oparil has carved out a significant role as a representative and leader, driving forward innovative and impactful medical education programs. An esteemed member of the National Academy of Medicine since 1991, her comprehensive leadership, service to the ACC, and extensive work in cardiovascular health clearly justify this Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Oparil's research, education, and advocacy have been pivotal throughout her career, making her an undeniable choice for this prestigious ACC honor.

Keith C. Ferdinand, MD, FACC

CLAIRE DUVERNOY, MD, FACC

Master of the American College of Cardiology (MACC)

For the extensive leadership roles she has held within the College, Claire Duvernoy, MD is a deserving recipient of the Master of the ACC (MACC) designation.

Dr. Duvernoy is currently professor of medicine in the division of cardiovascular medicine at the University of Michigan, and she is the national program executive director for cardiology for the Veterans Health Administration.

She has been an ACC member since the beginning of her fellowship training in 1993, the year when her father, Wolf Duvernoy, MD, was the Michigan ACC Governor. From the beginning, she was very engaged in the Michigan Chapter, and grew from co-chairing the Fellows' Society to becoming a key leader in organizing the Chapter's annual meetings and other conferences. She chaired the Michigan Chapter's conference in 2003 and went on to serve as Michigan ACC Governor for two terms. In the first of these, she established the Michigan Chapter's Women in Cardiology Section. The Michigan Chapter meeting was truly revitalized under her leadership and has become an example for all other chapters to emulate.

Her service to ACC nationally has also been distinguished. She served as a member and chair of the Credentialing and Membership Services Committee, and building on her work in Michigan, helped colleagues establish Women in Cardiology Sections in other state chapters. She was a member and then chair of the Women in Cardiology Section Leadership Council, and she served as a member of the Nominating Committee, the Governance Committee and the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. Her service on the Board of Trustees from 2019-2022 was also distinguished. She made major contributions to the writing groups of the ACC Professional Life Surveys and most recently on the 2022 ACC Health Policy Statement on Career Flexibility in Cardiology. Through this work, she has helped highlight the issues and importance of fostering a diverse cardiovascular workforce.

Dr. Duvernoy is a passionate volunteer for the College, a champion for women in cardiology and particularly, women in interventional cardiology long after her tenure as chair of the section leadership council ended. Her federal leadership in the VA system has been unique and exemplary, and unlike many leaders, she 'grew up' in local chapter leadership and continues to espouse the importance of chapter involvement along with national volunteer work. She thus has a local, federal and ACC national lens. This combination is rare, and her expertise has allowed her to make many important contributions to the College. She has devoted her volunteer career to the College and its Mission.

Mary Norine Walsh, MD, MACC

DANIEL JOSÉ PIÑEIRO, MD, FACC

Master of the American College of Cardiology (MACC)

In distinction worthy of being selected as a Master of the American College of Cardiology (MACC), Dr. Daniel Piñeiro has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in advancing the Mission of the College. He has done so through clinical excellence, scholarship, advocacy, mentorship and an uncompromising commitment to universal public health.

Dr. Piñeiro is a master clinician and busy general cardiologist in Buenos Aires, where he cares for a diverse community of patients, treating each with the same respect, attention and compassion as the next. He embodies the principles of health equity: facilitating equal access; guaranteeing health as a human right; and ensuring the opportunity for each to achieve their own optimal health. As an educator, Dr. Piñeiro has left an indelible mark on a generation of clinicians, investigators, policy makers and professional leaders.

As chair of the ACC Assembly of International Governors, Dr. Piñeiro's lived experiences and professional talents have resulted in an array of educational programs, quality initiatives, advocacy achievements and strategic partnerships around the world.

As a trustee of the College and a champion of health equity, Dr. Piñeiro has long understood that health equity is not manifest as a program or committee, but rather as a value. This is evident in his leadership of the World Heart Federation (WHF), now as its president, promoting access to care, ensuring equal quality outcomes and creating an inclusive environment for patients and team members.

Through the WHF, he remains a critical partner of the ACC and is always quick to confide that "ACC is my home." On a personal level, Daniel is warm, engaging, trusted, kind, compassionate and selfless. He is a devoted husband, father, grandfather and brother.

ACC congratulates Dr. Daniel Piñeiro for the well-deserved recognition of Master of the American College of Cardiology.

Edward T.A. Fry, MD, MACC

M. EUGENE SHERMAN, MD, FACC

Master of the American College of Cardiology (MACC)

Dr. Eugene Sherman is a man with many outstanding achievements. We start with his main one of marrying well—to a physician—and raising with his medical spouse an outstanding medical family. His accomplishments extend to many unusual eclectic avocations: for example, ballroom dancing and car racing.

His vocation has been total dedication to his medical career, including a vast repertoire of duties and accomplishments within the ACC. He has served on at least 15 ACC committees and multiple work groups. He was chair of the Health Affairs Committee and also chaired the College's HeartPAC. Additionally, he was chair of the Compensation Committee.

Perhaps his most important job for the college and its members was serving on the AMA Relative Value Update Committee. He was on the committee for more than ten years and has helped ensure a fair valuation for every service performed by cardiologists and other colleagues since then. In addition to these many significant contributions, he has also been an outstanding mentor. In his partially retired years, this has been an essential contribution to the ACC and one about which he has been particularly passionate.

His service to the college has included work in almost every element of the college's Mission. His contributions have extended over four decades, and he continues to contribute enthusiastically.

I am delighted that my colleague and dear friend has achieved the designation of Master of the American College of Cardiology.

Thad Waites, MD, MACC

B. HADLEY WILSON, MD, FACC

Master of the American College of Cardiology (MACC)

Across the past year, B. Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC has led the College as its president, working to engage our members and advance our Mission to transform the future of cardiovascular care for all.

Dr. Wilson is an interventional cardiologist and executive vice chair at Sanger Heart and Vascular Institute in North Carolina, where he previously served as chief of cardiology for more than 13 years. He has published more than 75 articles with interests spanning STEMI systems of care, stent technologies and devices for coronary intervention, left main stenting, chronic total occlusions, anticoagulation and antiplatelet therapies, structural and valvular heart disease, appropriate public reporting of PCI outcomes and quality improvement projects for systems of care, and clinician well-being.

Wilson graduated with honors from Davidson College and subsequently Duke University School of Medicine. He then trained in internal medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he served as chief resident before completing his cardiology fellowship under Gottlieb Friesinger, MD, FACC. Since 2006, he has been a clinical professor of medicine at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, as well as the chief liaison for cardiovascular training between UNC's hospital campuses in Charlotte and Chapel Hill.

Wilson served as co-director of the annual Advanced Cardiovascular Interventions course in Hilton Head, SC, from 1992-2007 and as the chief interventional cardiologist for the ACC North Carolina Chapter STEMI/RACE program to develop a statewide system of care from 2005-2015. From 2011-2020, he was the chair of the ACC/American Heart Association National STEMI Accelerator I and II programs, covering more than 30 million lives.

Since 2019, he has been a senior adviser to the steering committee for the ACC Global Heart Attack Treatment Initiative, enrolling more than 2,000 STEMI patients. Wilson has also led numerous cardiology medical missions to other countries, including Haiti, Panama, Nicaragua and Honduras. In the past, he has served as governor for ACC's North Carolina Chapter, as well as chair of the Board of Governors and secretary of the Board of Trustees. Before serving as ACC President, he also held positions on the ACC Membership Committee and the NCDR Management Board and served as chair-elect of the Governance Committee.

The ACC is grateful for his service as ACC president over the past year. For his dedication and leadership, we are honored to recognize him as a Master of the American College of Cardiology.

