

Introduction

This was my first conference as President of the Board of Directors of Computers in Cardiology, which was a post I was honored to accept. Therefore, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present to you our 36th annual scientific proceedings of Computers in Cardiology.

This was not an easy year in which to organize a conference in view of concerns over Swine flu against a backdrop of an economic crisis that threatened to limit travel. It was therefore pleasing that a very healthy number of abstracts were submitted for consideration and indeed a sizeable percentage had to be excluded. This is encouraging and underlines the value of Computers in Cardiology as the major forum where Computer Scientists, Engineers and Medical Staff working in the field of Cardiology can come together to exchange ideas. This year, on the initiative of the Conference Chair, there was a special session devoted to Nanotechnology in Cardiology, which was of interest to a great many participants.

Last year, the death of Solange Akselrod was noted with great sadness, but this year I am pleased to announce that her family has supported the PhysioNet Challenge in memory of their mother. The Board of Directors also agreed to enhance its support of the Challenge. So now the Rosanna Degani Young Investigator Award and the Solange Akselrod Awards for the PhysioNet Challenge are both well supported. Gary and Bill Sanders have also generously agreed to continue supporting the Poster Sessions with the award of prizes for the best posters in each session.

It is a great pleasure for me to thank the Local Organizing Committee and in particular, Conference Co-Chairs, Sheri and Matt Prucka, who undertook an enormous amount of work to ensure the success of the meeting. They were greatly assisted by Bob Lux and Bob MacLeod, and by Steve Poelzing and Thida Crouse who masterminded the Social Activities. Many other internationally known scientists and clinicians also served on the local organizing committee which met via a conference call every Monday morning at 7am for several months in order to plan what was a very successful meeting!

I sincerely hope you will enjoy these proceedings so much that you will continue to support Computers in Cardiology in the future. Please keep in touch via our website www.cinc.org

Peter W. Macfarlane
President, Computers in Cardiology