1. Executive Summary
The Cardiovascular Council (CVC) of SNMMI works to ensure and enhance the quality and clinical utility of the use of cardiovascular nuclear medicine studies in patient care. The CVC achieves this goal via three endeavors:

- Develop and promote methods and procedures for proper clinical application of cardiovascular radionuclide / molecular imaging;
- Educate providers both within and outside SNMMI regarding the most up-to-date and highest quality cardiovascular nuclear medicine care, and
- Serve as a facilitator to the basic research development of new cardiovascular imaging techniques, and in the translation and clinical application of such new techniques.

Members of the CVC also work with SNMMI and other cardiac imaging organizations in the interaction between providers of nuclear cardiology services, and government and 3rd party payers with regard to quality and appropriate compensation for services. Finally, the CVC contributes to the presentation and explanation of cardiovascular nuclear imaging methods and benefits to the general public through print and other media.

2. Mission
The Cardiovascular Council is a group within The Society of Nuclear Medicine, Inc., hereafter referred to as the Society, dedicated to the interchange of scientific and medical ideas among Society members who have interest in cardiovascular imaging using radiopharmaceuticals. The overall mission of the Cardiovascular Council is to:

a. provide a forum for members with similar interests
b. provide expertise in the field of interest to the membership and to the nuclear cardiology community at large
c. foster research and education in the field of interest
d. provide outreach to other professionals and organizations
e. nurture new membership into the Society
f. serve as a resource to SNMMI Leadership

3. CVC Leadership:
Officers: 
President: Terrence D. Ruddy, MD 
President-elect: Venkatesh L. Murthy, MD 
Vice-President Elect: Timothy Bateman, MD 
Secretary: Wengen Chen, MD, PhD 
Treasurer: Edward J. Miller, MD, PhD 
Immediate Past-President: Panithaya Chareonthiatawee, MD

Term:
June 2018 – June 2019 
June 2018 – June 2019 
June 2018 – June 2019 
June 2018 – June 2020 
June 2018 – June 2020 
June 2018 – June 2019

Board of Directors:
Wanda Acampa, MD, PhD 
Robert de Kemp, PhD 
Diane Paez, MD 
Mehran M. Sadeghi, MD 
Robert Bober, MD 
Salvador Borges-Neto, MD 
James R. Corbett, MD 
Piotr J. Slomka, PhD 
Esma A. Akin, MD 
James R. Galt, PhD 
Miguel Hernandez Pampaloni MD, PhD

June 2016 – June 2019 
June 2016 – June 2019 
June 2016 – June 2019 
June 2016 – June 2019 
June 2017 – June 2020 
June 2017 – June 2020 
June 2017 – June 2020 
June 2017 – June 2020 
June 2017 – June 2020 
June 2018 – June 2021 
June 2018 – June 2021
4. Current Status

Financial

As of August 30, 2018, the CVC has total revenue of $20,207. This includes $7,970 in membership dues and a carryover of $12,237 from FY2018. The total projected expenses for FY2018 are $7,611, with a carryover of $14,476 to FY2019. Revenue is generated through annual meeting membership dues, which are $20.00 per member.

Membership

The membership of the Cardiovascular Council consists of physicians, scientists, and technologists. It continues to be one of the largest councils of SNMMI with 401 active members as of June, 2018. The CVC voted and approved a motion to offer free in-training membership to in-training residents, in-training associate scientist and in-training technologist.

Many members of the CVC belong to and have important leadership roles in other cardiovascular societies, including the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC), the American College of Cardiology (ACC), the American Heart Association (AHA), the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (SCCT), the Canadian Society of Nuclear Medicine (CSNMMI), the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM), and the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), among others. As a result, the CVC has a unique role to play in Cardiovascular Nuclear Medicine by providing a crucial link between clinical and specialist cardiologists, and cardiac imagers in the aforementioned societies on the one hand, and the expertise and experience of physicians, technologists and basic scientists in SNMMI on the other. Such a link is essential to advancement of applications of basic research in instrumentation, radiopharmaceutical and computer sciences, molecular biology and imaging into clinical practice, and also to enhancing cardiac clinical care provided by members of SNMMI. By this, the CVC is well positioned to play an important role in improving the evaluation and management of patients with cardiovascular diseases.

The annual CVC membership counts for the past few years are shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Member Benefits

Continuing Education: The CVC organizes scientific and continuing education sessions of the SNMMI Midwinter meeting and Annual scientific meeting of the SNMMI. These activities are for the members of the council and for the SNMMI membership at large. The CVC also organizes educational programs in collaboration with other SNMMI councils, centers and chapters.

Collaborative Activities: The CVC supports additional programs on specialized topics such as cardiac PET/CT, CV Molecular Imaging and cost effectiveness research. The CVC collaborates with the ASNC, ACC, and other councils and centers within the SNMMI.
Outreach Committee: The CVC has a very active Outreach committee that facilitates the communication and development of cardiovascular outreach initiatives including outreach to international members.

Newsletter: Council news and activities is circulated to the council membership in a newsletter several times a year.

Webpage: The council page on the SNMMI webpage is restructured to provide professional information, scientific updates, information about CME opportunities, award announcements, and other information relevant to the field of cardiovascular imaging.

5. Accomplishments for FY2018

a. Education

As part of its mission, the CVC organizes scientific and continuing education sessions at the SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting and the Annual Meeting.

SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting 2018, Orlando, FL: The CVC sponsored two continuing education sessions:
1. Status of SPECT and PET Myocardial Blood Flow (MBF)
2. Advances in Cardiovascular Nuclear Imaging (with Case-Based Presentations)

SNMMI Annual Meeting 2018, Philadelphia, PA:
The CVC played a major role in the 2018 Annual Meeting by sponsoring or co-sponsoring a total of 12 educational sessions:

2018 SNMMI Annual Meeting Categorical Session:
Cased Based Review of Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging

2018 SNMMI Annual Meeting CE Sessions:
FDG PET Assessment of Viability and Inflammation
How to Establish a Cardiac PET Program
Cardiovascular Boot Camp I
Cardiovascular Boot Camp II
Cardiovascular Molecular Imaging
Cardiovascular Imaging with Novel Radiotracers: Looking Beyond Perfusion Imaging
Measurement of Absolute Myocardial Blood Flow – Part I (Joint session with CIC)
Measurement of Absolute Myocardial Blood Flow – Part II (Joint session with CIC)
2018 Hermann Blumgart Award
Basics of Cardiac Scintigraphy with a Focus on PET/CT (Joint session with CIC)
Cardiac PET/CT Workshop (Joint session with CIC)

b. Newsletter

The CVC provided informative and interesting newsletters for the council membership in 2017-18 and maintained a web site. Communications to the CVC membership was also done through email blasts.

c. 2018 Board Meetings

Cardiovascular Council Board of Directors meetings were held during both the SNMMI midwinter and annual meetings in January and June 2018, in order to discuss ongoing activities of the council.

d. Awards

The CVC presented the 2018 CVC Hermann L. Blumgart Award to Thomas Schindler, MD at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA
Numerous cardiovascular oral abstract and poster presentations. The CVC again organized and conducted its Young Investigator Award competition. The following are the winners of the 2018 CVC YIA Awards:

**Basic Science**
- Annika Hess – 1st Place
- Mirwais Wardak – 2nd Place
- Rang Wang – 3rd Place

**Clinical Science**
- Takashi Norikane – 1st Place
- Carmela Nappi – 2nd Place

e. **The CVC Internship Program**
The SNMMI provides each council with $1500 for one intern. In June 2017, the CVC BOD voted and approved the motion to have two CVC interns. The council will fund the second intern. Stephanie Thorn, PhD and Richard Weinberg, MD, PhD will be the 2017-2019 CVC interns.

6. **Goals and Programs for 2018-19**
The Cardiovascular Council (CVC) continues to assure and enhance the quality and clinical utility of the use of cardiovascular nuclear medicine studies in patient care by contributing to Goal A: SNMMI members are known for high-quality, value-driven performance and delivery of patient-centered nuclear medicine practice, Goal B: SNMMI has advanced the development and approval of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging technologies, Goal E: Patients and the medical community recognize the value of nuclear medicine, molecular imaging and radionuclide therapy. Programs planned include:

a. **Educational Sessions at the 2019 Mid-Winter Meeting in Palm Springs, CA, (January 17 to January 19, 2019).** The meeting will have three concurrent educational tracks – Cardiovascular, ACNM Annual Meeting, and General Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. The Cardiovascular track is the themed track for 2019 and Brain/Neurosciences for 2020. The CVC is responsible for planning the Cardiovascular Track which will include 10 sessions (2 on Thursday, 4 on Friday and 4 on Saturday) with 4 presentations per session (total of 40 presentations).

b. **Organization of Scientific and CME Program for 2019 SNMMI Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA (June 22-25, 2019).**
As in prior years, the CVC is prepared to organize a Saturday Categorical Seminar and multiple CME sessions on cardiovascular nuclear imaging. A recipient for the Hermann Blumgart Award will be selected by the Award Committee, and will be presented in the Blumgart session at the meeting. Oral and poster sessions will be composed by the CVC members of the scientific program committee and the CVC vice chair, sub-chairs for clinical and basic sciences, and the sub-chair for the YIA. Also, the CVC will again hold its cardiovascular Young Investigator Award Competition, for which the 6 best abstracts will be selected as finalists. The Council will give a $500 award to the best cardiovascular technologist abstract.

c. **Promote Closer Relationship with ASNC**
In recent years, several joint efforts have been completed with ASNC. There is ongoing dialog between the leadership of the ASNC and the CVC on prevailing issues of mutual interest.

A joint effort and initiative between the BOD of the CVC and ASNC has resulted in two position papers: 1) Joint SNMMI-ASNC Expert Consensus Document on the Role of 18F-FDG PET/CT in Cardiac Sarcoid Detection and Therapy Monitoring (Panithaya Chareonthaitawe, MD) and 2) Clinical Quantification of Myocardial Blood Flow Using PET: Joint Position Paper of the SNMMI Cardiovascular Council and the ASNC (Venkatesh Murthy, MD).

A joint position paper by ASNC and SNMMI addressing the appropriate use of cardiac perfusion imaging with PET is well underway (Thomas Schindler, MD)
d. **Promote closer working relationship with other councils, centers and chapters of SNMMI.**

The CVC recognizes that an open interaction among councils and other structures is a key component of integration within SNMMI. The CVC can only benefit from exchange of ideas, experiences, and expertise, and likewise it is expected that other SNMMI structures will benefit from close interaction with CVC.

The CVC has worked with and will continue to work with the PET Center of Excellence and the Center for Molecular Imaging Innovation and Translation on both educational and research projects. Designated CVC BOD members will continue to serve as primary contacts of the CVC for both Centers and will offer to participate and provide input at meetings of each Center’s leadership.

e. **Further Implementation of the CVC Internship Program.**

Stephanie Thorn, PhD and Richard Weinberg, MD, PhD will be the 2017-2019 CVC interns. Sharmila Dorbala, MD will mentor Dr. Thorn and Panithaya Chareonthaitawee, MD will mentor Dr. Weinberg.

f. **Facilitate communication and development of Outreach initiatives.**

Dr. Dilsizian, CVC Past President and SNMMI President-Elect, continues to serve as the Nuclear Cardiologist for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI) for a four-year term starting March 1, 2014. Prem Soman, MD, PhD, CVC Past-President, serves as President and Chair of the Board of Directors of ASNC.

While the relationship with ASNC is considered highest priority due to the significant overlap of interests, there are other medical societies active in the field of cardiac imaging (such as ACC, AHA, WMIS, SCCT, SCMR). Those may have infrastructure and experience that can benefit SNMMI, such as with regard to issues of practice guidelines, credentialing, interaction with 3rd party payers, etc. The CVC will seek to establish more formal relationships with these societies. Because our field continues to become more international in scope the CVC will also seek to establish relationships with the cardiovascular nuclear medicine sub-specialties of similar international organizations. Methods to do this include meeting and communicating with the leadership of these societies on common issues and concerns and working to elect CVC Board of Directors Members who also have positions within these societies.

g. **Work for education of outside medical community and the general public on benefits of nuclear medicine, nuclear cardiology and cardiovascular molecular imaging**

As members of SNMMI, members of the Cardiovascular Council know that patient imaging using radiotracers offers tremendous benefit to patients in terms of accurate diagnoses, highly effective prognosis/risk stratification, and in guiding appropriate patient management. Additionally, novel molecular imaging techniques hold promise to play a key role for a future personalization of medicine. The CVC will continue to strive to be a leader in effectively communicating the benefits of our techniques to physicians and health care providers less familiar with the benefit of nuclear medicine, as well as providing patient fact sheets to the general public at large (including 3rd party payer and governmental agencies).

h. **Increase Membership and Communications**

Continue to work on increasing membership and participation in the Cardiovascular Council especially to international members.

Continue to provide professional and educational information through Council newsletters and the webpage. The CVC has modified its newsletters to 2-3 pages in order to get information out to the membership in a timely manner. Identify and develop potential leaders and define and incentivize priorities in cost effectiveness research in cardiovascular nuclear medicine in
the current critical era of enhanced competition and reduced reimbursement for cardiac imagines services.

The CVC voted and approved a motion to offer free in-training membership to in-training residents, in-training associate scientist and in-training technologist.

i. 2019 Board Meetings
Cardiovascular Council Board of Directors meetings will be held during both the SNMMI midwinter and annual meetings in January and June 2019, in order to discuss ongoing activities of the council. As well, a Leadership Retreat including the Board of Directors will be held at the SNMMI midwinter meeting.

7. Budget and Resource Requirements
   a. Summary of Financial Needs
      The attached FY2019 budget summarizes the total resources needed to support the goals set forth in the business plan.
   b. Resource Requirements
      Ongoing SNMMI staff support, materials, technology and marketing support