Overview: SNMMI Councils and Centers provide professional networking and educational programs for nuclear medicine and molecular imaging professionals in respective areas, while simultaneously serving as a resource for development and implementation of the SNMMI Strategic Plan and other Society policies.

Reporting Instructions: Twice a year, councils and centers are asked to submit a written report to the House of Delegates (councils) and Board of Directors (centers of excellence). These reports help the HOD and BOD to keep up-to-date on the activities of the special interest groups, while also providing an opportunity for these groups to note any challenges they are having with respect to meeting their goals.

Goal 1: Activity related to the 2017 Midwinter Meeting had been completed. The CVC sponsored the following sessions.

Continuing Education Sessions:
Key Instrumentation Components for Low Dose Nuclear Medicine Imaging – Friday, January 20, 10:00am-12:00 pm
Advances in Cardiac SPECT and PET Imaging — Friday, January 20, 12:45pm-2:45 pm
Role of Nuclear and Multimodality Imaging in Cardiovascular Diseases - Friday, January 20, 3:00pm-5:00 pm
Emerging Molecular Imaging Approaches in Cardiovascular Diseases - Friday, January 20, 6:30pm-8:00 pm

Activity related to the 2017 Annual Meeting has been planned. The CVC will sponsor the following sessions.

Categorical Session: Advances in CV Multimodality and Molecular Imaging – Saturday, June 10 8:00am - 4:00 pm

Continuing Education Sessions:
How to Establish a Cardiac PET Program – Saturday, June 10, 4:30-6:00 pm
Translation of New Radiotracer Development: The Need for Speed – Sunday, June 11, 12:30-2:00 pm
Beyond MPI - New Tracers and Applications – Sunday, June 11, 4:15-6:15 pm
Read with the Experts in Nuclear Cardiology – Monday, June 12 10:00-11:30 am
Cardiovascular Imaging Boot Camp I – Monday, June 12, 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Cardiovascular Boot Camp II – Monday, June 12, 4:45 – 6:15 pm
Dynamic Cardiac SPECT with Kinetic Analysis – Tuesday, June 13, 8:00-9:30 am
Role of Nuclear Cardiology in Centers of Excellence – Tuesday, June 13, 10:00-11:30 pm
Quantifying Myocardial Blood Flow with PET – Tuesday, June 13, 3:00-4:30 pm
Alternative Payment Models and Value-Based Health Care: Nuts and Bolts – Tuesday, June 13, 4:45 -6:15 pm
Strategies for Reducing Radiation Exposure – Wednesday, June 13, 9:45-11:15am-11:30 am

Award Sessions:
Hermann Blumgart Lecture and Award Session – Sunday, June 11, 3:00-4:30 pm
CVC Young Investigators Award Symposium – Sunday, June 11, 12:30pm-2:00pm.
SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:

- Goal B: Facilitate and support the availability and clinical utilization of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging technologies.
- Goal D: Advance and promote quality, value and safety of Molecular Imaging and Nuclear Medicine.
- Goal E: Support and enhance the professional workforce and environment.

Current Progress: Activity related to the 2017 Midwinter Meeting had been completed. The CVC sponsored the following sessions.

Continuing Education Sessions:
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Advances in Cardiac SPECT and PET Imaging — Friday, January 20, 12:45pm-2:45 pm
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Activity related to the 2017 Annual Meeting has been planned. The CVC will sponsor the following sessions.

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Goal 2: Promote Closer Relationship with ASNC and the other Imaging Societies
There is ongoing dialogue between the leadership of ASNC, ACC, and SNMMI on prevailing issues of mutual interest. The BOD of the CVC and ASNC completed two position-papers on very timely and high priority topics as follows: 1) Quantification of myocardial blood flow with PET in CAD detection
and characterization (spearheaded by V. Murthy and MF Di Carli) 2) The use of cardiac PET and PET/CT for cardiac Sarcoidosis. (Spearheaded by P. Charoenhthaitawee and R. Blankstein) These position-papers are ready for submission to the Journal of Nuclear Medicine. In addition, there is a joint position-paper by ASNC and SNMMI led by Vasken Dilsizian addressing the appropriate use of cardiac perfusion imaging with PET. Overall, there is an ongoing exchange between the BOD of the CVC and other cardiovascular imaging societies as outlined above.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**

- **Goal E:** Support and enhance the professional workforce and environment.

**Current Progress:** here is ongoing dialogue between the leadership of ASNC, ACC, and SNMMI on prevailing issues of mutual interest. Currently, there is a joint effort and initiative between the BOD of the CVC and ASNC to write two position-papers on very timely and high priority topics as follows: 1) The use of cardiac PET and PET/CT for cardiac Sarcoidosis. (Spearheaded by P. Charoenhthaitawee and R. Blankstein) 2) Quantification of myocardial blood flow with PET in CAD detection and characterization (spearheaded by V. Murthy and MF Di Carli). The Cardiac Sarcoidosis paper has been approved by both societies and has been accepted to be jointly published by JNM and JNC. The PET MPI manuscript has been approved by the CVC and SNMMI BOD and is currently in review at ASNC. In addition, the CVC (Rob deKemp- CVC representative) participated in a multisocietal document spearheaded by the ACC entitled; “Radiation Safety in Children with Congenital and Acquired Heart Disease: A Scientific Position Statement on Multimodality Dose Optimization from the Image Gently Alliance. This document was recently published in JACC Imaging (http://www.imaging.onlinejacc.org/content/early/2017/05/02/j.jcmg.2017.04.003). The CVC is also participating in update of the ASNC Cardiac SPECT Guidelines (led by Sharmila Dorbala). In conjunction with the SNMMI Guidance Oversight Committee, the CVC (Thomas Schindler taking the lead) is writing the SNMMI PET MPI AUC document.

A dialogue has been initiated between SNMM CVC and ASNC leadership regarding SNMMI participation in the ASNC Image Registry. Two SNMMI CVC BOD members (Rob deKemp and Panithaya Charoenhthaitawee) are participating in this initiative. Several options for participation have been proposed and are currently under review by the SNMMI.

There is also ongoing dialogue between the leadership SNMMI CVC and the EANM CI for collaborative efforts. The first of these will be the addition of a SNMMI CVC representative on the joint EANM and the working group on Large-Vessel Vasculitis (LVV) PET (PET Imaging Group LVV) on the procedural document on the use of FDG PET/CTA for LVV. Other joint efforts will follow to further strengthen this collaboration.
**Goal 3:** Promote closer working relationship with other councils, centers and chapters of SNMMI.

The CVC and the CIC hosted a joint categorical session with the correlative imaging council at the 2016 Annual Meeting and will also co-host the same session at the 2017 Annual Meeting. It will also co-host CME sessions with CaIC and CMIT at the 2017 Annual meeting.

Dr. Vasken Dilsizian, past President of the CVC, has been elected as vice-president elect of the SNMMI.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**

- Goal D: Advance and promote quality, value and safety of Molecular Imaging and Nuclear Medicine.
- Goal E: Support and enhance the professional workforce and environment.

**Current Progress:** The CVC and the CIC hosted a joint categorical session with the correlative imaging council at the 2016 Annual Meeting and will also co-host the same session at the 2017 Annual Meeting. It will also co-host CME sessions with CaIC and CMIT at the 2017 Annual meeting.

Dr. Vasken Dilsizian, past President of the CVC, has been elected as vice-president elect of the SNMMI.

Next Steps: No data entered.

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**Goal 4:** Continue Implementation of the CVC Internship Program.

The CVC has a highly successful internship program. Dr. Soman, who was the first intern of the CVC, has received the Blumgart-Award in 2016 and was President of the BOD -CVC in 2015-15. Dr. Wengen Chen, the incumbent intern has been involved in developing the scientific programs of the CVC at the Mid-winter and Annual meetings both as an organizer and participant. Dr. Chen lectured on FDG imaging of LVAD infections at the 2014 Annual Meeting, and was invited to speak on the same subject at the Chinese Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting in November. He has authored 3 published manuscripts during his tenure as intern, and continues his funded research at the University of Maryland. Dr. Chen will complete his internship this year. Dr. James Thackeray, PhD, a highly accomplished post-doctoral fellow working in the lab of Dr. Frank Bengel, is the new CVC Intern. He has given a state-of-the-art lecture about "Nuclear Imaging Modalities to image Sympathetic Innervation of the Heart" at the midwinter meeting 2016 in Orlando. He has already published several manuscripts in the field of cardiovascular molecular imaging. This year he even won the ACC young investigator award in Chicago. No doubt, he will be an important asset for the CVC as Intern and in the near future.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**

- Goal E: Support and enhance the professional workforce and environment.

**Current Progress:** The CVC has a highly successful internship program. Dr. Soman, who was the first intern of the CVC, has received the Blumgart-Award in 2016 and was President of the BOD -CVC in 2015-15. Dr. Wengen Chen, the incumbent intern has been involved in developing the scientific programs of the CVC at the Mid-winter and Annual meetings both as an organizer and participant. Dr. Chen lectured on FDG imaging of LVAD infections at the 2014 Annual Meeting, and
was invited to speak on the same subject at the Chinese Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting in November. He has authored 3 published manuscripts during his tenure as intern, and continues his funded research at the University of Maryland. Dr. Chen will complete his internship this year. Dr. James Thackeray, PhD, a highly accomplished post-doctoral fellow working in the lab of Dr. Frank Bengel, is the current CVC Intern. He co-moderated a CE session at the 2016 Annual meeting will give a state-of-the-art lecture about “Imaging Cardiac Sympathetic and Parasympathetic Innervation” at the midwinter meeting 2017 in Phoenix. He has published 8 manuscripts in the field of cardiovascular molecular imaging during his internship. No doubt, he will be an important asset for the CVC as Intern and in the near future. Because of the success of the program, the CVC has expanded it to two interns. This year we had numerous outstanding candidates and selected Stephanie Thorn, PhD from Yale University and Richard Weinberg from the University of Michigan.

Next Steps: No data entered.

**Goal 5:** Facilitate communication and development of Outreach initiatives.

The CVC added 2 positions in the BOD for international members as outreach initiative.

The CVC is in discussions with ASNC (Kathy Flood and Donna Polk) to have co-sponsored sessions at the ASNC Annual Meeting in the fall of 2017. The first session developed jointly by the SNMMI CVC and ASNC will be t entitled “Imaging in Sarcoidosis (Update on Guidelines): A Joint Session with the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging” and will include only speakers and moderators from the two societies, but also from the EANM to provide the European perspective.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**

- Goal B: Facilitate and support the availability and clinical utilization of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging technologies.
- Goal C: Increase appropriate utilization of Radionuclide Therapy.

**Current Progress:** The CVC is in discussions with ASNC (Kathy Flood and Donna Polk) to have co-sponsored sessions at the ASNC Annual Meeting in the fall of 2017. The CVC added 2 positions in the BOD for international members as outreach initiative.

**Next Steps:**

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**Goal 6:** Promote Cardiovascular Molecular Imaging within the Scientific community.

CVMI is highlighted in numerous sessions at the Mid-Winter and Annual Meetings as described above.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**

- Goal D: Advance and promote quality, value and safety of Molecular Imaging and Nuclear Medicine.
- Goal E: Support and enhance the professional workforce and environment.

**Current Progress:** CVMI is highlighted in numerous sessions at the Mid-Winter and Annual Meetings as described above.
**Next Steps:** Awaiting the approval for the CME sessions for the Annual SNMMI meeting in San Diego.

**Goal 7:** Increase membership and participation in the Cardiovascular Council.  
The CVC continues to provide member value by hosting cardiovascular sessions at the SNMMI meetings, through its newsletters, and two upcoming important positions papers and an AUC document. In addition, 2 additional positions in the BOD for international members have been approved by the HOD. The CVC councils strive to include more chairs and speakers from outside of North-America as outreach initiative.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**  
No goals selected.

**Current Progress:** The CVC continues to provide member value by hosting cardiovascular sessions at the SNMMI meetings, through its newsletters, and two upcoming important positions papers. In addition, 2 additional positions in the BOD for international members have been approved by the HOD. The CVC councils strive to include more chairs and speakers from outside of North-America as outreach initiative.

**Next Steps:** No data entered.

**Goal 8:**  
Continue to provide professional and educational information through Council newsletters and the webpage. The CVC considers its communication with the membership a priority. To this end, a non-voting BOD position was created for editor of the CVC newsletter. The appointment to this position will be made by the President of the CVC. The current incumbent is Mr. Edward Lyons. The CVC continues to provide member value through its newsletter which disseminates information and opinion on contemporary issues in nuclear cardiology. Two important positions papers on the use of PET-determined myocardial blood flow in CAD detection and characterization as well as its application for cardiac sarcoid detection are widely ready to be submitted to the Journal of Nuclear Medicine.

**SNMMI Strategic Plan Goals that relates to this goal:**  
- Goal D: Advance and promote quality, value and safety of Molecular Imaging and Nuclear Medicine.  
- Goal E: Support and enhance the professional workforce and environment.

**Current Progress:** The CVC considers its communication with the membership a priority. To this end, a non-voting BOD position was created for editor of the CVC newsletter. The appointment to this position will be made by the President of the CVC. The current incumbent is Mr. Edward Lyons. The CVC continues to provide member value through its newsletter which disseminates information and opinion on contemporary issues in nuclear cardiology. Two important positions papers on the use of PET-determined myocardial blood flow in CAD detection and characterization as well as its application for cardiac sarcoid detection are widely ready to be submitted to the Journal of Nuclear Medicine.
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Next Steps: No data entered.

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**Open Comment Section**

**CHALLENGES** – Please provide information on any challenges you are having within your council/center that you would like assistance from the SNMMI to help overcome.

There is a disconnect between scientific meeting evaluation and planning. Deadlines for new topics and courses for the MWM and Annual Meeting should not precede receipt of evaluations of the most meetings. Otherwise, we cannot address the needs of our constituents and are minimizing their valuable input.

**OPPORTUNITIES** – Please provide information on opportunities that you believe exist within your council/center OR other related special interest groups (or outside stakeholders) that the SNMMI can help facilitate or should be aware of.