

Introduction

Welcome to the 43rd Computing in Cardiology conference. This is the first time that we met in Canada. The Board of Directors of Computing in Cardiology is particularly happy that Drs. Andrew Blaber and Kouhyar Tavakolian volunteered to host the conference in Vancouver in Western Canada, and prepared an excellent meeting and social program. The organizers are part of a long tradition where engineering is successfully applied to physiology. A very large number of abstracts were submitted, by far exceeding the number of submissions of previous conferences held on this continent. So it can be concluded that the conference remains in good health and attracts numerous contributions in the field.

We encourage any of you who would like to consider hosting a Computing in Cardiology meeting to step forward. Advance planning is welcome, so please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Directors now if you think you would like to host a meeting in the future. If the conference has not yet been held in your country, this suggestion has particular relevance for you.

To keep the conference at the frontier of research, we have introduced several new initiatives. This year we have included in the program three special sessions organized by experts in the field: **1) ECG Imaging in Atrial Electrophysiology, 2) Recent Advances in Seismocardiography and Ballistocardiography, 3) QT, Drugs and Computing.**

To further stimulate the clinical value of the research work of the CinC community, we set up the **Clinical Needs Translational Award (CTA)** in collaboration with, and the support of, the e-Working Group of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). Following the success of last year's clinical talks delivered in Nice, this year continued with two talks to better connect clinical and engineering aspects. The titles were *Implantable Device Detected Atrial Tachyarrhythmias: A Few Clinical and Technical Considerations*, delivered by Steven Swiryn and *Cardiac Imaging and Modeling: Predicting the future* presented by Ravi Ranjan.

The *Mortara Fellowships* represent an extraordinary means for “reducing the distance” for young researchers with limited means so that they can present their work at CinC. The *Rosanna Degani YIA Competition* aims at promoting high standards in research quality by highlighting best research projects conducted by young investigators. The *PhysioNet-CinC Challenge* represents a major effort to direct research to clinically relevant topics, where annotated data are provided to the research community.

These now established features of CinC, together with the new initiatives, will benefit from feedback from all of you as a scientific community. I encourage you to provide input to the Board of Directors on these issues, as well as any other issue, as a reaffirmation of our commitment to do our best for guiding the steps of our organization in coming years.

I can advise that some members of the Board will end their term next year, and will need to be replaced. Those of you who would like to serve on the Board, and thus contribute to the CinC community, are invited to submit your candidacy. Details of how to do so will be announced later in the year.

I hope you had a scientifically stimulating meeting that will give you new ideas for your future research and inspire you to submit your work for presentation at next year's meeting, which will take place in Rennes, France, from 24th to 27th September, 2017. May I also take this opportunity to thank Drs. Andrew Blaber, Kouhyar Tavakolian and all of the Local Organizing Committee for the work they have done in the preparation of Computing in Cardiology 2016. I am sure it was a great success.

Best wishes,
Pablo Laguna
President, Computing in Cardiology