Program Directors

John Rumsfeld, MD, PhD, FACC
Associate Professor of Medicine
University of Colorado Denver VA Medical Center
Denver, CO

Kathleen Hewitt, MSN, RN, CPHQ
Associate Vice President, NCDR
American College of Cardiology
Washington, DC

Program Planning Committees

Overview Planning Committee
Patricia Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Christina Chadwick, MSN, RN (Nurse Planner)
Barb Christensen, MSHA, RN, CPHQ, AACC
Arielle Fingerman, MHSA
Kathleen Hewitt, RN, MSN, CPHQ, AACC
Richard J. Kovacs, MD, FACC
Frederick A. Masoudi, MD, MSPH, FACC
Anthony Roberts, RN
John Rumsfeld, MD, PhD, FACC

ACTION Registry -GWTG Workshops
Gregg Fonarow, MD, FACC, FAHA
Kimberly Hustler, RN
Susan Rogers, RN, MSN, NEC-BC
Rosemary Rose, RN

CathPCI Registry Workshops
Connie Anderson, RN, BSN,
Patricia E. Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Tony J. Hermann, RN, MBA, CPHQ, AACC
Mark Hutcheson, RCIS
Janet Harper, RN
Issam Moussa, MD, FACC

ICD Registry Workshops
Beth Bruning, RN, BSN
Patricia E. Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Mark Kremers, MD, FACC
Christina Koutras, RN, BSN, CPHQ
Denise M. Pond, RN, BSN

IMPACT Registry Workshops
Patricia E. Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Joanne Chisholm, RN, BSN, CEN, CFRN
Joshua Kanter, MD, FACC
Gerard Martin, MD, FACC
Kristina McCoy, RN, MSN, NP-C, CPHQ
Joan Michaels, RN, MSN, CPHQ
NCDR Orientation Workshops:
Connie Anderson, RN, BSN,
David Bonner, (R)(CV)(ARRT) RCVT
Patricia E. Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Kim Marshall, RN, BSN
Denise M. Pond, RN, BSN
Carole Salamah, RN, AD
Christopher Schulze, RN

Physician/Administrator Workshops:
Patricia Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Barb Christensen, RN, MSHA, CPHQ,AACC
Arielle Fingerman, MHSA
Kathleen Hewitt, RN, MSN, CPHQ, AACC
Richard J. Kovacs, MD, FACC
Frederick A. Masoudi, MD, MSPH, FACC
Anthony Roberts, RN
John Rumsfeld, MD, PhD, FACC

STS/ACC TVT Registry Workshops:
Patricia E. Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
John Carroll, MD, FACC
Susan Fitzgerald, RN, MSN
Tony J. Hermann, RN, MBA, CPHQ, AACC
Kristina McCoy, RN, MSN, NP-C, CPHQ
Joan Michaels, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Mercedes Plasencia, RN
Faculty Biographies

Anthony Roberts RN, MBA, MSN, CCRN
With a diverse background as both a clinician and an administrator, Anthony has over 15 years of healthcare leadership experience. For the past two years he has held the position of Assistant Vice President of Cardiovascular Services with the Clinical Services Group of HCA. He is responsible for leading and developing Cardiovascular Service Line strategies to advance clinical performance for all HCA clinical facilities. This includes using data to benchmark and improve clinical performance, with enterprise accountability for the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Registry, American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registries, and Core Measures (including stroke, AMI, outpatient AMI, and CHF).
Prior to joining HCA, Anthony held clinical and operational roles at both teaching hospitals and community hospitals, including Duke University Medical Center, Wishard Health Services, Indiana University Health, and Community Hospitals of Indianapolis. Over his clinical career he gained diverse experience in the emergency department, cardiac catheterization lab, neurosurgery ICU, trauma ICU, and cardiovascular ICU.
Anthony also has experience in executive operations oversight of cardiology physician practice management, critical care, emergency services, observational unit, medical-surgical telemetry, progressive care, cardiac catheterization labs (including preparation and recovery), cardiovascular outcomes and charge reconciliation, telemetry services, interventional radiology, dialysis, and PICC team. He has been a part of two start-up hospitals: IU Health North and The Indiana Heart Hospital, which was the first all digital hospital in the U.S. and a G.E. Healthcare Beta Site.
Anthony has a master's degree in business administration and a master's degree in nursing administration from Anderson University and a bachelor's degree in nursing from Purdue University. He is certified in critical care nursing. In April 2012, Anthony was appointed to the American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry Board of Managers.

Arielle Fingerman, MHSA
Arielle has been with ACC for almost five years. She re-joined the NCDR team as the Senior Specialist for NCDR Outreach in July, 2012. She previously worked as the Senior Specialist for PINNACLE Network and the Specialist for NCDR's Analytic and Reporting Services. Arielle earned her Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Indiana University in 2005 and her Master of Health Services Administration from The George Washington University in 2008. She completed her Administrative Residency at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Washington, DC and prior to that, worked in Georgetown University Hospital's Otolaryngology Department.

Barbara Christensen, RN, MSHA, CPHQ, AACC
Ms. Christensen is the Senior Director for Registry Services and provides strategic direction and oversight for all NCDR Registry Services. Barbara is a registered nurse with over twenty years of experience in cardiovascular leadership and administration. Prior to joining the NCDR in 2008, Barbara was the Executive Director for Cardiovascular Services at Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, Maryland. In this role, she oversaw all aspects of acute care cardiovascular programs, including the development and implementation of quality improvement processes for clinical outcomes. She developed and implemented a One-Call access process for patient transfer, established a process for cardiovascular data collection and quality reporting, and served as the facilitator of a multi-disciplinary quality improvement team to address clinical issues.
Beth Bruning, RN
Ms. Bruning received her nursing degree from Marymount College of Kansas in Salina, KS. For the past 7 years, she’s worked as a Cardiovascular Data Manager at the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City, KS. In this role, Bruning is responsible for quality data input of all defibrillator implants, interpretation of National Data Outcome Reports, and presenting data outcomes for KU Hospital Quality Assurance Staff, EP physicians and EP lab staff. Prior to joining the team at UK Hospital, Bruning worked as an office staff nurse at Mid-America Cardiology in Kansas City, MO and as a cardiovascular floor nurse at St. Luke’s Hospital in Kansas City, MO.

Brahmajee Nallamothu, MD, FACC
Dr. Nallamothu received his medical degree from Wayne State University in Detroit (1995). He completed internal medicine residency and a general medicine and healthcare policy fellowship at the University of Michigan where he also received his Master’s in Public Health degree (2000). He then went on to complete a cardiology and interventional cardiology fellowship at the University of Michigan (2000-2004).

Dr. Nallamothu is Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School and staff cardiologist at the University of Michigan Cardiovascular Center and Ann Arbor Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He has a long-standing interest in improving quality of PCI and other specialized cardiac procedures as they are delivered across large patient populations. His prior work has been funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Carole L. Salamah, RN, AD
Carole is the Data Collection Analyst at Baylor Hamilton Heart and Vascular Hospital in Dallas Texas. Since taking this role, she has attended the NCDR Annual Conference every year. Prior to that position she worked as a staff nurse in cardiovascular telemetry and intensive care units as well as performed physiology procedures in the GI lab. She has presented in as well as authored posters for the two previous NCDR Annual Conferences. She received her Associate Degree in Nursing at Dallas County Community College.

Cathleen Biga, RN, MSN
Cathleen Biga is President and CEO of Cardiovascular Management of Illinois (CMI). She has over 30 years’ experience in health care, including positions as hospital CEO, Vice President of patient care services and has been active in practice management for the last 15 years. In her current practice she is responsible for strategic planning, growth and development of cardiology practices, their operational efficiencies, and the development/implementation of new technologies. She has recently completed three integrations of her current groups – successfully transitioning 46 cardiologists. CMI now offers management, billing, and EHR support for the integrated groups. Cathleen serves as the Executive Director of Adventist Heart and Vascular Institute and is instrumental in the development and growth of the CV Service Line for the organization.

Ms. Biga has been active nationally with physician/hospital integration, development and formation of cardiovascular service lines, quality initiatives, development of clinical company management agreements, designing balanced quality score cards, advocacy issues and lectures widely on the implementation of Integration strategies, PQRI, eRx, and operational efficiencies. She serves on the advisory board of Medaxiom, is Past-President of CSCA, past-president of Cardiology Advocacy alliance, an active member of numerous ACC committees and workgroups and is on the Illinois Board of Councilors of ACC. She serves on multiple
Boards and remains active in her community. With her background in hospital administration she is able to bring a unique perspective to practice management in these complex times.

She received her nursing degree from College of St. Theresa/Mayo Clinic in Winona, Minnesota and a Master of Nursing Science from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois.

**Charles McKay, MD, FACC**

Dr Charles R McKay received his MD from Boston University in 1976; served as Internal Medicine Resident at Harbor UCLA -1976 through 79, Cardiology Fellow at UCSF and was Board Certified in Internal Medicine in 1979 and in Cardiovascular Diseases in 1983. He served on the cardiology faculties at USC where he directed the cardiac catheterization laboratory and started the PCI program in 1984 and at the University of IOWA where he directed a research program in PCI device development, intracardiac and intravascular ultrasound and valvuloplasty. He was Chief of the Division of Cardiology at Harbor UCLA from 2000 - 08 where he focused on service line management and quality improvement. He was Chief Medical Officer of the ACC NCDR from 2008-12. He is currently Assistant Chair of Medicine at Harbor UCLA for Quality Program Development.

**Christina Koutras, RN, BSN, CPHQ**

Christina joined the NCDR in April 2010 as a clinical quality consultant for the registries. She is now the lead consultant for the ICD registry. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree from the University of Maryland in 1989. She proceeded directly into an ICU Fellowship program at the Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C. post-graduation. She brings with her to the NCDR her past nursing experience in surgical intensive care, cardiovascular recovery, cardiac catheterization, and electrophysiology lab areas.

**Christopher Schulze, RN, BSN**

Mr. Schulze received his Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Missouri. He currently works as the Cardiovascular Services Quality Coordinator at CoxHealth in Springfield, MO where he participated in the Missouri state Time Critical Diagnosis System, led NCDR CathPCI Registry data collection and reporting and facilitates multidisciplinary ST-Elevation MI Process Teams. Prior to joining CoxHealth, Mr. Schulze worked as a Registered Nurse at St. John’s Regional Health Center in Springfield, MO where he provided direct patient care in the cardiac catheterization lab and served as a member of the Medical Library Advisory Committee. He is currently working on a dual-Master’s in Healthcare Administration and Informatics at the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO.

**Cornelia Anderson, RN, BSN**

Ms. Anderson recently joined the NCDR as a Senior Specialist for the CathPCI Registry. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Columbia Union College in 1987 and is a registered nurse in the state of Maryland. She’s also certified in CPR, ACLS, PALS and Advanced Burn Life Support. Prior to joining the NCDR, Ms. Anderson worked at Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, MD as a cath lab nurse where she managed patient care through cardiac catheterizations and interventional therapies and was selected as a unit representative for the Cerner Initiative. Ms. Anderson has also worked as an ER nurse and Trans Care Nurse.

**David May, MD, PhD, FACC**

Dr. May was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky. He did his undergraduate training at the University of Louisville and, in 1980, received his medical degree Summa Cum Laude from the University of Louisville School of Medicine. Following medical school, he completed his Ph.D. in
Pharmacology and Toxicology at the same institution. As a medical student, he was the recipient of academic awards in anatomy, pharmacology, and medicine. He was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society as a junior medical student where he served as president.

Dr. May came to Texas in 1981 to serve an internship in internal medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas. This was followed by a residency in Internal Medicine and subsequently a Fellowship in Cardiovascular Diseases at the same institution. He also served as a post-doctoral fellow in the University of Texas Health Science Center Department of Pharmacology under the tutelage of Elliott Ross, Ph.D. and Nobel Laureate Alfred G. Gilman, M.D., Ph.D. A Diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine, Dr. May is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Diseases, Interventional Cardiology and Critical Care Medicine. He is a Fellow of the College of Physicians, the American College of Cardiology and the Society of Coronary Angiography and Intervention. Dr. May currently holds active medical staff privileges at the Medical Center of Lewisville, Presbyterian Hospital of Flower Mound, Presbyterian Hospital of Denton and Denton Regional Medical Center.

During his career, he has served as the president of the medical staff at the Medical Center of Lewisville, Presbyterian Hospital of Flower Mound and Trinity Medical Center. In addition, he has served on the board of directors of the Texas Society of Internal Medicine, the Denton County Medical Society, the Lewisville Chapter of the American Heart Association and the Board of Trustees of the Medical Center of Lewisville. Currently, he serves as President of the Texas Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. At a national level he is a member of the American College of Cardiology Advocacy Steering committee, the Board of Governors Steering committee, the Patient Centered Care Committee, the PINNACLE registry steering committee, the Payment Reform Workgroup and is the Chair elect of the Board of Governors. He has served as chairman of the HeartSeeker committee exploring electronic health record data mining for quality improvement and the CardioSource usability workgroup examining ways to improve the College digital impression. He is also serves on the American College of Physicians Council of Specialty Societies with special focus on the Patient Centered Medical Home-Neighbor.

As the managing partner of his private practice group, Cardiovascular Specialists, PA (CVS), he has been instrumental in achieving Intersocietal Accreditation for their nuclear, echocardiographic and vascular laboratories. He oversees CVS participation in the PINNACLE registry, the largest outpatient cardiovascular registry in existence, as well as managing the quality assurance programs for the group. Under his management CVS has achieved Bridges to Excellence Level III certification, successfully attested to CMS Meaningful Use level I qualification and consistently ranks above published national standards for Appropriate use of imaging in cardiovascular testing.

Dr. May has authored numerous scientific papers, which have appeared in publications such as The New England Journal of Medicine, The Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, The Annals of Internal Medicine, The Journal of Biological Chemistry, and The Proceedings of National Academy of Science.

Dawn Terry, RN, BSN, MBA
Ms. Terry is the Principal, Cardiovascular (CV) Services with Premier, based in Charlotte, NC with an office in Detroit, MI. She has been with Premier for 10 years and also has been the Managing Principal, Breakthrough Series (BTS) and CV Services as well as a CV consultant with Premier for four years. The BTS program focuses on facilitating the collaborative series programs to improve the quality and cost of clinical and supply chain initiatives for Premier’s
members. Cardiovascular consulting services focus on the member hospitals and health-care systems to improve their provision of cost-effective cardiovascular diagnostics and medicine. She received her MBA from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Detroit. She is a published author who has spoken to numerous professional groups, regionally and at national conferences.

**Denise M. Pond, RN, BSN**

Mrs. Pond has joined NCDR just this year after spending many years as a critical care nurse and educator in a 300 bed acute care hospital located in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. Her most recent position at that organization was as a Research Coordinator for multiple studies, e.g., DESERT: (Drug Eluting Stent Event Registry of Thrombosis) The National DES (Drug Eluting Stent) Thrombosis Registry, PARIS Registry: Patterns of Non-Adherence to Anti-platelet Regimens In Stented Patients: An Observational Single Arm Study, and GORE EMBOLic Filter in Carotid Stenting for High Risk Surgical Subjects (GORE EMBOLDEN). She received her nursing degree from University of Maryland, where she became a member of Phi Kappa Phi, the National Honor Society.

**Fred Masoudi, MD, MSPH, FACC**

Dr. Masoudi is a practicing cardiologist at the University of Colorado. He received his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and served as a resident and chief resident in medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. After completing his fellowship in cardiology and receiving a Masters in Science in Public Health at University of Colorado at Denver (UCD), Dr. Masoudi joined the faculty at UCD.

Dr. Masoudi is an expert in clinical registries, quality measurement, and outcomes research. He is the Senior Medical Officer of the National Cardiovascular Data Registries (NCDR) and the Chair of the NCDR Science and Quality Oversight Committee. He has served as the clinical coordinator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-sponsored National Heart Care Projects from 1999-2005, and is currently the clinical coordinator of the CMS Hospital Measures Special Study for acute myocardial infarction and heart failure (2005-present). These efforts have focused on assessing and improving the health care for Medicare beneficiaries with cardiovascular disease.

Dr. Masoudi holds positions in national organizations focused on quality of care and outcomes research. He served as the Chair of the American College of Cardiology (ACC)/American Heart Association (AHA) Task Force on Performance Measures (2007-2010); is the Vice-Chair of the AHA Quality of Care and Outcomes Council; is a member of the American Society of Echocardiography Quality Task Force; and is an Associate Editor of *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*.

**Gregg Fonarow, MD, FACC, FAHA**

Dr. Gregg C. Fonarow is the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science at UCLA. He serves as Director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, Co-Director of UCLA's Preventative Cardiology Program, and Co-Chief, UCLA Division of Cardiology. His research interests center on heart failure, acute coronary syndromes, preventative cardiology, quality of care, and outcomes research. Dr. Fonarow has published over 400 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Fonarow is immediate past chair of the steering committee for the AHA’s Get With the Guidelines Program. He is also chair of the steering committee for the ACC ACTION Registry-GWTG Program.
Issam Moussa, MD, FACC, FSCAI
Issam D. Moussa, M.D., is chair of the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases in the Department of Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Florida. As a senior associate consultant, Dr. Moussa has the academic rank of professor of medicine.

Dr. Moussa attended Damascus University Medical School where he earned the M.D. degree. He then completed an internship in internal medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center. Dr. Moussa moved to California where he completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in cardiovascular medicine at the University of California, Irvine Medical Center. He further trained at Lenox Hill Heart and Vascular Institute in New York City where he completed separate fellowships in cardiovascular medicine and interventional cardiology. Prior to joining Mayo Clinic in Florida, Dr. Moussa served as Director of Clinical research at Lenox Hill Heart and Vascular Institute (1998-2004) and subsequently as Director of Endovascular Services / Cardiovascular Division at New York Presbyterian Hospital at Columbia and Cornell Universities (2004-2010).

As an interventional cardiologist, Dr. Moussa specializes in performing catheter-based cardiovascular procedures in patients with complex coronary artery disease, structural heart disease, and peripheral arterial disease. Dr. Moussa has been on the forefront in advancing the medical sciences by investigating new cutting-edge therapies such as renal sympathetic denervation and cardiac stem cell therapy.

Dr. Moussa has been an investigator in over 100 clinical trials, and has co-authored over 100 peer-reviewed articles in prominent journals such as New England Journal of Medicine, Circulation, Journal of Biomechanics, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, and Catheterization and Cardiovascular Interventions. He is currently the editor-in-chief of the journal of Acute Cardiac Care and associate editor of the journal of Catheterization and Cardiovascular Interventions.

Dr. Moussa serves on many national leadership committees including the American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology and he currently serves as Chair of the Steering Committee of the American College of Cardiology NCDR CathPCI Registry.

Janet Harper, RN
Primarily a cardiac nurse for many years, Janet has worked in ICU, CCU, Education and Cath Lab as staff nurse, manager and educator. She received her nursing diploma from Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas and has worked in several hospitals in Kansas and Texas. She transitioned from Cath Lab to Data Manager for the ICD and Cath PCI registries. For the last 6 years she has been Data Manager for Cath PCI at Plaza Medical Center in Fort Worth, Texas.

Joan Michaels, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Ms. Michaels has been with the ACC for over three years. She is the Program Manager for the IMPACT Registry and the CARE Registry. Ms. Michaels is a registered nurse with over 25 years’ experience working in the cardiovascular area. Prior to working at ACC, she held several management positions at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Va. Most recently, she was the Director of the NIH Cath Lab at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland. Ms. Michaels received her BSN from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and her MSN from The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.
Joanne Chisholm, RN, BSN
Joanne has been the Clinical Research Nurse for Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Therapy at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio for the last ten years. She is currently the site manager for the IMPACT Registry, and has been involved with IMPACT since the pilot study began in 2010. She has extensive experience in pediatric and adult congenital cardiac catheterization and was the operations manager of Cardiac Services at Arnold Palmer Hospital in Orlando before moving to Columbus. Joanne is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, and is currently finishing her Master of Science in Nursing from Drexel University.

John D. Carroll, M.D., FACC, FSCAI
Dr. Carroll received his AB (biology) cum laude from Princeton University in 1972 and his MD (Alpha Omega Alpha) from the University of Chicago in 1976. He trained in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease at Tufts New England Medical Center from 1976-1981 finishing as the American Heart Association’s Samuel Levine Cardiology Research Fellow. He then spent a year as a cardiology research fellow at UniversitatsSpital in Zurich, Switzerland. From 1982-1996 he was a member of the cardiology faculty at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, and directed the Hans Hecht Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. In 1996 he moved to the University of Colorado as Professor (with tenure) of Medicine, Director of Interventional Cardiology, and Co-Medical Director of the Cardiac and Vascular Center. Nationally he is a member of the STS-ACC Transcatheter Valve Therapy Registry Steering Committee, the NCDR Cath-PCI Steering Committee, the American Board of Internal Medicine Interventional Cardiology Test Committee, and the Steering Committee of the RESPECT trial.

Dr. Carroll is an interventional cardiologist with clinical and investigative interests related to image guidance, structural/valvular heart disease interventions, clinical trials, and using advanced cardiac 3D imaging and graphics to understand device-anatomy interactions. He has many collaborators in interventional cardiology, neurology, cardiac imaging, imaging sciences, cardiac surgery, and the health services outcomes group at the University of Colorado. Dr. Carroll has recently co-edited with John G. Webb, MD of Vancouver the first textbook on “Structural Heart Disease Interventions” and is working with Ziyad Hijazi, MD to start a novel tablet-based medical and community journal on structural heart disease.

John Harold, MD, MACC, President-Elect of ACC
A graduate of New York City's Stuyvesant High School, Dr. Harold received a BS in biomedical sciences from the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education at the City College of New York. After earning his medical degree from the Stony Brook University School of Medicine, he performed his residency in internal medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. He completed a fellowship in cardiology in 1985 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, where he began his practice in internal medicine and cardiovascular diseases.

As President-Elect, Dr. Harold plans to address state and national issues affecting the management of cardiovascular disease. He filled the position of ACC governor from Southern California, chaired the ACC Board of Governors, and was recognized with the ACC California Chapter's Leadership Award in 2009 after serving as the chapter's president. By collaborating with the ACC California Chapter and the British Cardiovascular Society, Dr. Harold facilitated the development of the International Twinning program, which is now being expanded to additional chapters along with other International societies. Dr. Harold was actively engaged in the Board of Governors and Chapter Governor Nominating Committees and developed the "No Governor Left Behind Initiative." Dr. Harold has also worked tirelessly to raise funds for the ACC and has been involved in the organization for the past three decades.
He sat on the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Executive Committee until June 2012. His involvement in both the ACC and the ABIM allowed him to facilitate an expanded collaborative relationship between the two organizations on numerous fronts, including International activities. Dr. Harold serves on the board of directors of a variety of other organizations, including the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, the Save-A-Heart Foundation, the Heart Foundation at Cedars-Sinai and the UCLA Clinical Faculty Association. He is immediate past-president of the Los Angeles County Division of the AHA, which he has actively supported for the past two decades. He contributes to the advancement of cardiovascular medicine by hosting and co-hosting fundraising events, such as the 2009 Los Angeles AHA Heart Awards Galas, and he was presented with the AHA Passion of the Heart Award in 2007. Dr. Harold was honored with the Master designation from both the American College of Cardiology and the American College of Physicians and was named Stony Brook School of Medicine Alumnus of the Year in 2007.

John Messenger, MD, FACC
John Messenger, MD, FACC is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Cardiology at the University of Colorado Denver where he has been since 1999. He currently serves as the Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories as well as the Cardiovascular ICU and Intermediate Care Unit at the University of Colorado Hospital. In addition, he has been the Program Director for the Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Training Program at University of Colorado since 2005. His research interests include simulation based training in cardiology, pharmacological therapies for acute coronary syndromes, and novel treatments for acute myocardial infarction as well as health services research in interventional cardiology.

He serves as the chair of the American College of Cardiology's NCDR CathPCI Research and Publications Committee, and is a member of the NCDR CathPCI Steering Committee. In addition, he serves on the Veterans Affairs CART Research and Publications Committee and is the Chair of the Simulation Committee for the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions

He received his medical degree from the University of Southern California and was a resident at the University of California, San Francisco. He completed his interventional cardiology fellowship at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver Colorado.

John Rumsfeld, MD, PhD, FACC
Dr. Rumsfeld received his medical degree from the University of Chicago (1991) and doctoral degree in Epidemiology from the University of Colorado (1999). He completed internal medicine internship and residency at the University of California, San Francisco (1991-1994), and cardiology fellowship at the University of Colorado (1995-1999).

Dr. Rumsfeld is the National Director for Cardiology for the U.S. Veterans Health Administration (VA). He is also the National Director of the VA Cardiovascular Assessment, Reporting and Tracking (CART) Program.

Dr. Rumsfeld serves as the Chief Science Officer and Chair of the American College of Cardiology’s (ACC) National Cardiovascular Data Registries (NCDR). He is the also the current Chair of the American Heart Association’s Quality of Care and Outcomes Research (QCOR) Council, and Associate Editor for Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes.
Dr. Rumsfeld is Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and staff cardiologist at the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

**Joshua Kanter, M.D., FACC**
Joshua Kanter, MD, is Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Children’s National Medical Center, and assistant professor of Pediatrics at the George Washington University Medical Center. He received his medical degree and pediatrics training from the State University of New York, Health Science Center at Syracuse and completed fellowship training in pediatric cardiology, and interventional pediatric cardiology at the New York Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University Medical Center.

Dr. Kanter specializes in diagnostic and interventional pediatric cardiac catheterization for the treatment of congenital heart disease. He has extensive experience implanting the Melody® Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve, and is an expert in the device closure of atrial septal defects, ventricular septal defects, and patent ductus arteriosus. He is an investigator in a number of national multi-center research studies to examine new devices and to track clinical outcomes.

He currently serves on the NCDR, IMPACT Registry Research and Publication sub-committee, and has served as a member of the IMPACT Registry Workgroup and the American College of Cardiology Annual Scientific Session Program Committee.

Dr. Kanter is board certified in Pediatrics and Pediatric Cardiology, and is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology.

**Kathleen M. Hewitt, RN, MSN, CPHQ, AACC**
As Associate Vice President for the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR™) of the American College of Cardiology (ACC), Kathleen M. Hewitt is responsible for the management and operation of a broad range of data registries for measuring and improving quality patient care throughout the nation. Under Ms. Hewitt's leadership the NCDR™ has grown into an unprecedented quality measurement program that over 2,500 hospitals and healthcare systems view as their gold standard benchmark and measurement tool.

Ms. Hewitt’s 20-year healthcare career reflects her dedication and passion for improving cardiovascular care. Her special interest in healthcare informatics combined with her “hands-on” experience in providing cardiovascular related care brought her to the NCDR. Prior to coming to the ACC, Ms. Hewitt held a number of positions focusing on quality patient care and performance improvement at INOVA Fairfax Hospital, an 833-bed tertiary care hospital in Northern Virginia. As a Case Manager, Cardiac Surgery; Assistant Patient Care Director, PCCU/CCU; Assistant Director, EP Lab; and Invasive Cardiovascular Clinical Practice Specialist, Ms. Hewitt gained a critical awareness of the value of accurate, complete, and timely information when evaluating the quality of patient care.

Ms. Hewitt obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing from George Mason University in 1988 and 1997, respectively. In 2001, she received her Certified Professional for Healthcare Quality (CPHQ). Ms. Hewitt lives in Northern Virginia with her 14-year old son, Ben, whose career path happily remains “undecided.”

**Kimberly Hustler, RN**
Ms. Hustler has been with the NCDR since March 2008 as a Senior Specialist for the ACTION Registry® -GWTG TM. Ms. Hustler is a registered nurse with 20 years of cardiothoracic
intensive care experience. She has 7 years’ experience working as an acute care hospital supervisor during which she oversaw hospital operations and provided leadership in emergent situations. Ms. Hustler initiated a quality program for performance improvement in Joint Commission AMI, CHF, and Pneumonia Core Measures. Ms. Hustler worked for 3 years as a Chest Pain Center coordinator, instituting process improvement initiatives to achieve certification for the Society of Chest Pain Centers for a PCI facility.

Kimberly J. Marshall, RN, BSN
Kim has recently become the Quality Improvement Specialist at the University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora Colorado. Prior to that position, she served for several years as the Clinical Outcomes Coordinator at St Anthony’s Hospital in Lakewood, Colorado where she also had worked as a staff and clinical nurse on a medical-surgical telemetry unit, a surgical-neurology-orthopedic unit, CCU, and CICU. She was a presenter at the 2010 AHA Mission:Lifeline Symposium, and presented posters at the previous NCDR Annual Conferences. Kim received her AD in Nursing from the New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord, New Hampshire, and her BSN from Regis University in Denver Colorado. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences from the University of California in Santa Barbara, California.

Kristina McCoy, RN, MSN, NP-C, CPHQ
Kristina is a Certified Nurse Practitioner with the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She has been working with the American College of Cardiology for over three years, focusing on the CathPCI Registry. She is now the primary Clinical Quality Consultant for the IMPACT Registry and delighted to focus on the treatment of patients with congenital disease. Prior to her years as a cardiac critical care nurse, she worked in research in both Pediatric Neuromuscular diseases conducting research sponsored by the Muscular Dystrophy Association and Pediatric Cardiology developing an NIH sponsored registry for patients with cardiomyopathies. Her research has been published in various journals including Circulation, Neurology and the New England Journal of Medicine.

Linda Pitchford, APRN-CNS
Ms. Pitchford earned her BSN from Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, OK and her MSN from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, OK. She currently works as the Director of Disease Management and Clinical Integration: INTEGRIS Cardiovascular Physicians, INTEGRIS Heart Hospital at INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma. She oversees cardiovascular case management and cardiovascular research. She assists in developing disease management plans for the cardiovascular population and works as the NCDR registry site manager at her medical center. Ms. Pitchford is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, the American Heart Association and the Case Management Society of America. She is also a Cardiac Care Associate of the American College of Cardiology.

Mark Hutcheson, RCIS
Mr. Hutcheson is a Senior Specialist with the CathPCI Registry. Prior to his position at ACC, Mr. Hutcheson worked as a cardiovascular technologist at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C. He has also worked as a meteorological technician and instructor at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey, where he analyzed statistical data and weather instruments to ascertain natural elements for forecast utilization, and coordinated quality control programs.

Mark S. Kremers, MD, FACC
Dr. Kremers is the chairman of the ICD Registry Steering Committee. He is a private practice cardiac electrophysiologist with MidCarolina Cardiology in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr.
Kremers received his MD from the Indiana University School of Medicine. He trained in internal medicine and cardiology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. After completing his electrophysiology training at The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, he returned to Dallas to direct the electrophysiology program at Parkland Hospital and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Kremers is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the Heart Rhythm Society, is board-certified in cardiology and cardiac electrophysiology and has certification as a Cardiac Device Specialist.

Martha Radford, MD, FACC, FAHA
Dr. Radford received her BS (genetics) and MA (molecular biology) from University of California, Berkeley in 1970 and 1973, and her MD from Harvard Medical School in 1978. She trained in internal medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and in cardiovascular disease at Duke University Medical Center. Between 1984 and 1998, she was a member of the cardiology faculty at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. Since 1998, Dr. Radford has devoted her professional life to quality and outcomes of care as Director of Clinical Quality for the Yale New Haven Health System (1998-2005) and Chief Quality Officer for NYU Langone Medical Center (since 2005).

Dr. Radford first became involved with quality improvement and quality related research as a consultant to the Health Care Financing Administration (later the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) and its innovative Cooperative Cardiovascular Project. She has actively collaborated with outcomes research groups at Yale and at Washington University (St. Louis), with a focus on effectiveness and outcomes of care.

Mary Anne C. Elma, MPH
Mary Anne is the Director of Quality Innovation and Implementation and leads the Best Practice Quality Improvement Solutions and Quality Initiatives team for the American College of Cardiology (ACC). In her 14 years at the ACC, Mary Anne has led efforts that bring evidence-based medicine into the field with practical solutions using social marketing practices and information design. She has applied her expertise to multiple products and programs, including the GAP Program, CathKIT, D2B Alliance, Hospital-to-Home (H2H) Initiative – and the ACC’s new line of Clinical Toolkits. Mary Anne received her BA from Bucknell University with a focus on social research methods. She participated in medical product liability litigation and pro bono work at a law firm before joining the ACC. She received her Master’s in Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health.

Mercedes Plasencia, RN
Ms. Plasencia is the cardiac catheterization lab data manager at North Shore University Health System in Evanston, Illinois. She’s been a part of North Shore for seven years and in her current role for three years. Ms. Plasencia maintains databases for the TVT Registry, CathPCI Registry and ICD Registry. She’s been a nurse for 26 years and specializes in pediatric intensive care.

Patricia E. Casey, RN, MSN, CPHQ
Ms. Casey is the Associate Director for NCDR Training and Orientation, a position that she has held for the past year and a half. She is responsible not only for the NCDR Annual Conference, but also for addressing the orientation and continuing educational needs related to NCDR. She previously served as an Advance Practice Nurse at Holy Cross Hospital just outside Washington, D.C. In this role, she assisted in the implementation of a continuous EEG-monitoring unit, a Research and Evidenced-Based Practice Nursing Council, and significant revisions to the Clinical Ladder Program, as well as in the on-going clinical support that helped
to make the hospital the only one in Maryland and the greater DC area to be recognized by The Joint Commission as a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures. Prior to that she was the Director of Chronic Conditions Care Management with Kaiser Permanent Mid-Atlantic States, where she managed the registries for Heart Failure, Diabetes, Coronary Artery Disease, Asthma, Depression, and Chronic Pain, as well as the Controlling High Blood Pressure program which received the James A. Voh’s Award for Quality as well as an American Medical Group Association grant to assist in disseminating the learnings from the program. Earlier she served over 10 years as the Education Coordinator for Cardiovascular Nursing at INOVA Fairfax Hospital, where she taught critical care nursing and dysrhythmias to several of her current co-workers. While in this position, she also implemented and co-chaired a hospital-wide multidisciplinary team that supported a data-driven quality improvement program. She is the author of numerous publications and has served as faculty at many programs, both regionally and nationally.

Ms. Casey received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Vermont in Burlington Vermont and her Master of Science in Nursing, focusing on Cardiovascular Nursing and Adult Education, from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. She received her Certified Professional for Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) just last year.

Paul D. Varosy, MD
Dr. Varosy currently works as the Director of Cardiac Electrophysiology at the VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System and as an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado, Denver. He completed his medical training at the University of California, San Francisco and the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Varosy is a member of the American College of Cardiology, Heart Rhythm Society and the American Heart Association’s Quality of Care and Outcomes Research (QCOR) Council. He serves as a member of the Science and Publications Committee for NCDR’s ICD Registry, a member of the Development Committee NCDR/HRS Safety of Atrial Fibrillation Ablation Registry Initiative (SAFARI) Development Group, as an American College of Cardiology Representative to the European Society of Cardiology Atrial Fibrillation Registry Initiative, and as Chair of Heart Rhythm Society’s Quality Improvement Subcommittee. In 2012, he received honors as one of the top cardiac electrophysiologists in the United States in U.S. News & World Report’s “Top Doctors” issue.

Ralph G. Brindis, MD, MPH, MACC
Dr. Brindis is a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Department of Medicine & the Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies at the University of California, San Francisco. He serves as the Senior Medical Officer for External Affairs for ACC’s NCDR. He is also a Past President of the ACC.

Brindis graduated MIT in 1970 and obtained a Master’s Degree in Public Health from UCLA in 1972. He graduated Emory Medical School Summa Cum Laude in 1977. He completed his residency and was Chief Resident in Internal Medicine and a Cardiology Fellow at UCSF.

Dr. Brindis is a practicing invasive cardiologist with an active practice of consultative cardiology. His major interest in process measures and outcomes assessment in cardiovascular disease led him to assist in the creation and implementation of various Cardiovascular Guidelines for Northern California Kaiser. Dr. Brindis has been active in ACC activities for over 15 years, serving previously as the ACC Governor of Northern California and as President of the California Chapter of the ACC. Brindis was Chief Medical Officer and Chair of the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR®) Management Board and also chaired the ACC Appropriateness Oversight Task Force developing Appropriate Use Criteria for non-invasive
testing and coronary revascularization procedures. He is the past Chair of the ACC Quality Strategic Directions Committee. Brindis was the 2007 recipient of the national ACC Distinguished Fellow Award. Brindis is an active volunteer in the AHA serving on the Western Affiliate Mission Lifeline Task Force. He previously served on the California Affiliate AHA Board and as the President of the AHA San Francisco Division.

Dr. Brindis sits on the Cardiac Advisory Board of the State of California OSHPD initiative overseeing public reporting of hospital and physician specific CABG mortality. He also served on the National Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee for Cardiac Care for the Veteran’s Administration and the VA Hospital National CABG Quality Oversight Committee. Brindis has over 100 publications in national peer-reviewed cardiovascular journals.

**Richard J. Kovacs, MD, FACC**

Dr. Kovacs is a professor of clinical medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the clinical director of the Krannert Institute. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, Dr. Kovacs completed an internship and residency at the Indiana University Medical Center. His fellowship training also was at Indiana University, where he served as chief fellow and chief medical resident.

Dr. Kovacs served on the full-time faculty of the Indiana University School of Medicine for four years when he became the medical director of the Department of Medical Research at Methodist Hospital. He ultimately assumed the position of medical director and CEO of the Methodist Research Institute. Dr. Kovacs became a senior clinical research physician at the Lilly Research Laboratories in Indianapolis prior to returning to a full-time faculty position at Indiana University.

As a clinical cardiologist, Dr. Kovacs’ special interests include non-invasive cardiology and electrocardiography. He is a consultant to international drug regulatory agencies and the pharmaceutical industry regarding the assessment on non-cardiac drugs for cardiac safety.

Dr. Kovacs is the clinical director of the Krannert Institute of Cardiology. His duties include coordination of care across all hospitals serviced by the Krannert Institute. He is the medical director of the Clarian/Methodist Chest Pain Center, a member of the Indiana University Hospital Operations Team and the Methodist Facility Leadership Committee. He also serves as physician advisor to the Cardiac Diagnostics Department at Clarian West Hospital, is vice-chairman of the Cardiovascular Sub-Section at Clarian North Hospital and serves as acting chief of the Cardiology Service at Wishard Memorial Hospital.

**Rosemary Rose, LPN**

Ms. Rose started her nursing career at Essentia Health in Duluth, Minnesota in 1978 on the Post Coronary Care Unit. In 1993, she transferred to the Quality Department, at which time she became the lead abstractor for the NRMI Registry. She has also abstracted for other registries including CRUSADE, CORE Measures, PCI, STS, ICD, and CARE. Rosemary is actively involved in the Upper Midwest Data Managers meetings. In the past, she participated in the Crusade steering committee and presented at the annual meeting and was the co-president of the CORE measures user-group for the state meeting. She is passionate about the evaluation of the care that healthcare patients receive and appreciates how even small changes can affect the practice of providers and the care of patients.
Susan Fitzgerald, RN, MSN
Susan Fitzgerald has worked at the NCDR for the past 13 years. She currently works in our Science and Quality Department and helps develop datasets, metrics and reports for all NCDR Registries. Previously, she worked as a nurse, nurse manager and clinical specialist in cardiology in two community hospitals in Maryland and Virginia. Susan received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at American University in Washington, D.C. She lives in Maryland with her husband and four sons.

Susan Rogers, RN, MSN, NE-BC
Susan joined the NCDR staff in 2009 as the Associate Director of the ACTION Registry-GWTG and is now also responsible for the D2B Alliance. Susan has 24 years of hospital and leadership experience in the Cardiac Critical Care arena. Prior to her position with the NCDR Susan served as critical care nurse in the Cardiac ICU and moved into supervisory roles. Susan was responsible for the development and implementation of the Chest Pain Observation Unit, and the development of quality improvement initiatives involving the care of the STEMI and NSTEMI patient populations. She holds her RN Diploma from Norfolk General School of Professional Nursing and both a Bachelor degree in Nursing and a Master degree in Nursing Administration from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

Tony J. Hermann, RN, MBA, CPHQ, AACC
Mr. Hermann is currently the Associate Director for the CathPCI Registry, and has worked at the NCDR since 2003 in various capacities. He received his nursing diploma from Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and has more than 16 years of critical care and cath lab/radiology experience. He has been the chief operating officer at Cardiovascular Associates of Northern Wisconsin, and also acquired 3 years of experience reporting HEDIS (Health Employer Data Information Set) information to NCQA (National Committee for Quality Assurance) for Wausau Insurance Companies. Mr. Hermann received his Bachelor Degree with honors in Business Management from Upper Iowa University - Fayette, Iowa, and his Master of Business Administration at the University of Wisconsin in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He received his Certified Professional for Healthcare Quality designation in November of 2004.

Traci Connolly, MS, RN, CPHQ
Traci has been with the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR) for five years, working on the science and registry development for several of the NCDR registries. Traci obtained her BSN from Radford University in Radford, VA and her Masters of Science in Clinical Informatics from the University of Maryland. Past work experience includes critical care nursing in the Coronary Care Unit of INOVA Fairfax Hospital and for Northrop-Grumman Corporation on an outpatient EHR for the Department of Defense. Traci obtained her CPHQ certification from the National Healthcare Association of Quality in August of 2012.

Tracy Wang, MD, MHS, MSc, FACC
Dr. Wang is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in Cardiology at Duke University. Dr. Wang graduated from Yale University and Harvard Medical School, and completed her internal medicine residency at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and cardiology fellowship at Duke University Medical Center. She also received an MSc degree in molecular biochemistry and biophysics from Yale University, and an MHS degree in clinical research from Duke University. Dr. Wang’s research interests have included improving the quality of care and evidence for antithrombotic therapy for patients with coronary artery disease. Since 2006, Dr. Wang has provided clinical leadership in cardiovascular studies conducted through the Duke Clinical Research Institute and worked as a national leader in the evaluation of therapeutic strategies for acute coronary care. She has published and lectured in a number of forums on the quality of
evidence-based cardiac care, as well as the intersection between anti-ischemic benefits and bleeding complications when using these therapies for patients with coronary artery disease. She has served as faculty advisor for several of the ACC National Cardiovascular Data Registries, and has collaborated with many investigators nationally on research and quality improvement projects involving the NCDR. Additionally, she is Co-Chair of the AHA Quality of Care and Outcomes Research Young Investigators Committee and a member of several ACC, AHA, and other committees focused on promoting research interest and career development and developing leadership skills for early stage clinical investigators. She is a member of the joint AHA/ACC Clinical Data Standards Task Force which is responsible for integrating data definitions and standards across a variety of research activities and data sources.