



The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions

2400 N Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20037-1153

Main: 202.741.9854 ♦ Toll Free: 800.992.7224 ♦ Fax: 202.689.7224 ♦ E-mail: info@scai.org

An Open Letter to the Interventional Cardiology Community,

Officers

Steven R. Bailey, M.D., FSCAI
President

Larry S. Dean, M.D., FSCAI
President-Elect

Ziyad M. Hijazi, M.D., MPH, FSCAI
Immediate Past President

Christopher U. Cates, M.D., FSCAI
Vice President

Carl L. Tommaso, M.D., FSCAI
Treasurer

Christopher J. White, M.D., FSCAI
Secretary

Trustees

Alexander Abizaid, M.D., FSCAI

Lee N. Benson, M.D., FSCAI

Robert M. Bersin, M.D., FSCAI

Tyrone J. Collins, M.D., FSCAI

David A. Cox, M.D., FSCAI

Runlin Gao, M.D., FSCAI

James A. Goldstein, M.D., FSCAI

Roxana Mehran, M.D., FSCAI

Ian T. Meredith, M.D., FSCAI

Issam D. Moussa, M.D., FSCAI

Timothy A. Sanborn, M.D., FSCAI

Ashok Seth, M.D., FSCAI

Kimberly A. Skelding, M.D., FSCAI

Corrado Tamburino, M.D., FSCAI

Jonathan M. Tobis, M.D., FSCAI

Mark A. Turco, M.D., FSCAI

Zoltan G. Turi, M.D., FSCAI

Trustees for Life

Frank J. Hildner, M.D., FSCAI

William C. Sheldon, M.D., FSCAI

Norm Linsky

Executive Director

As the field of interventional cardiology continues to make great strides towards improved and innovative patient care, the growth and development of gender-specific research and treatment for cardiovascular disease remains a major concern. Women are reported as having higher incidents of complications than men, and despite similar procedural success rates, higher in-hospital mortality. Adding to the difficulty of identifying the underlying causes of these types of variances, is the fact that women continue to be under-represented in clinical studies, with the majority of such studies including no more than 30% females. Women are, therefore, being treated on evidence extrapolated from studies mainly based on men. For SCAI, these statistics are unacceptable, and we believe that you share our assessment.

It is with these facts in mind that I wish to extend an invitation to you to partner with The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography & Interventions (SCAI) in developing a critical initiative we have termed **Women in Innovations (WIN)**. WIN is a three pronged approach to addressing gender disparities in cardiovascular care and professionalism. Through educational events, innovative research, and professional development opportunities, WIN seeks to increase the visibility of and improve the knowledge base and science regarding gender disparities in interventional cardiology, not just in the United States but worldwide. SCAI understands that a global partnership with multiple organizations who share a common sense of purpose is critical for success, and we remain open to your ideas for making WIN as strong and unified an effort as possible.

WIN will approach these goals from multiple aspects, all stemming from a global network of physicians and perspectives. This makes your partnership increasingly important, and we hope you'll join us. As a partner in this effort, we feel there will be numerous areas in which our organizations can exchange knowledge, resources and other advancement opportunities, allowing WIN to flourish on a global level.

For more information on how your organization can get involved with WIN, please contact SCAI Associate Director of Education, Rebecca Teichgraeber at rebeccat@scai.org or through Society headquarters at 800 992 7224. We look forward to shaping the future of cardiovascular care for women together.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Bailey, MD, FSCAI
President, SCAI