

BYLAWS
THE GEORGIA CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY

ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. Name. This organization, a not-for-profit corporation, shall be known as the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Cardiology (hereinafter referred to as the "Chapter"). This Chapter will be formed as a 501 (c) (6) not-for-profit corporation under the federal and state tax codes.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of the Chapter shall be to contribute to the prevention of cardiovascular diseases and to ensure optimal quality of care for individuals with such diseases. In carrying out these purposes the Chapter shall function, in consultation with the leadership of the College, as a source of advice to local and state governmental and professional organizations concerning issues related to cardiovascular disease. The Chapter shall, in the interests of patients, physicians, and the public in general, maintain a high level of social consciousness and involvement with socioeconomic factors and access to the highest possible quality of cardiovascular health care.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. All members of the American College of Cardiology residing in Georgia shall be eligible for membership in the Chapter.

Section 2. Classes of Members. The Chapter shall have three classes of membership. The qualifications for membership in the respective classes are:

- a) Active Members: All Distinguished Fellows, Fellows, Associate Fellows, and Affiliates of the American College of Cardiology.
- b) Affiliate-in-Training Members: All Affiliates-in-Training of the American College of Cardiology.
- c) Emeritus Members and Honorary Fellows: All Emeritus members and Honorary Fellows of the American College of Cardiology in Georgia.
- d) Cardiac Care Associates: All Cardiac Care Associate members of the American College of Cardiology residing or working in Georgia.

Section 3. Voting and Office-Holding Rights. Only Active members of the Chapter in good standing shall be eligible to vote and to hold office in the Chapter. Other classes of Chapter membership shall be eligible to serve on committees of the Chapter.

Section 4. Termination of Membership. Membership in the Chapter shall terminate when the member ceases to hold membership in the American College of Cardiology or fails to pay Chapter dues as specified in Article VIII.

Section 5. Conformity with ACC. These bylaws shall always be consistent and in conformance with the ACC bylaws and related bylaws requirements for ACC Chapters. If the ACC Board of Trustees approves any bylaws amendments and revisions that require related amendments or revisions of Chapter bylaws, including but not limited to language regarding included membership categories, then the authority by the Chapters to make any such

conforming amendments and/or revisions to its bylaws solely for the purposes of ensuring such consistency and conformance shall be assumed and such actions may be taken by the Chapter leadership without any additional action required by the Board of the Chapter, the Board of Governors Steering Committee or other ACC national leadership entity.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. The officers of the Chapter shall consist of the President, the Immediate Past President and the Secretary-Treasurer. The American College of Cardiology Governor for the state of Georgia shall serve concurrently as the President of the Chapter. The American College of Cardiology Immediate Past Governor for the state of Georgia shall serve concurrently as the Immediate Past President of the Chapter.

Section 2. Election and term of office. Governors of the College are elected through a process as set forth in Article III, Section 6 of the Bylaws of the American College of Cardiology. The term of office for College Governors is three (3) years; therefore, the Chapter President's term shall be for a like number of years. The Chapter Immediate Past President shall also serve a term of three (3) years. The Secretary-Treasurer will serve for three years. The Secretary-Treasurer may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms as Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 3. Vacancies. If a vacancy for the office of President occurs for any cause it shall be filled, after consultation with the Chapter, in accordance with Article VI, Section 1 of the Bylaws of the American College of Cardiology. If the offices of Immediate Past President or Secretary-Treasurer become vacant, these offices shall be filled by action of the President and subsequently ratified by the members of the Council at any meeting of the Council.

ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. President. The President of the Chapter, who concurrently is the American College of Cardiology Governor for the state of Georgia shall be the chief elected officer of the Chapter and shall in general supervise and direct the business and affairs of the Chapter, in consultation with the Council. The President shall serve as Chairman at all meetings of the membership and of the Council. The President, in consultation with the Council, shall appoint and approve the members of all standing and special committees of the Chapter.

Section 2. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall assist the President in the discharge of the duties of the President as the President may direct, and shall perform such duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President. In the absence of the President, the Immediate Past President shall perform the duties of the President.

Section 3. Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall: 1) maintain a current roster of all members of the Chapter, 2) send all notices of meetings of the Chapter and of the Council, 3) keep a record of proceedings of all meetings of the Chapter, 4) serve as the principal financial officer of the Chapter and have responsibility for maintenance of adequate books for the Chapter, 5) have charge and custody of all funds and securities of the Chapter, and be responsible for the receipt and disbursement thereof, 6) deposit all funds and securities of the Chapter in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected. by the Council, and 7) in general perform all duties customarily incident to the office

of Secretary and Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Chapter President or Council. If required by the Council, the Secretary-Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of duties of that office in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Council shall determine, the cost of any such bond or surety to be paid from the funds of the Chapter.

ARTICLE V COUNCIL

Section 1. General Powers. The Council shall manage the administration, property and activities of the Chapter.

Section 2. Composition. The Council shall consist of the officers of the Chapter; two area councilors for each of the Northwest, Southeast and Southwest districts, three councilors from the Northeast, and five councilors for the Atlanta (Fulton, DeKalb) district and three Councilors at-large. At least one of the at-large Councilors shall be an Early Career Professional (in practice less than seven years). If a Councilor is not available for a district, another at-large Councilor will be elected. The Council shall also appoint a Cardiac Care Associate (CCA) to serve as a non-voting member and two Fellow-in-Training (FIT) representatives, also as non-voting members. The Chapter President shall serve as Chairman of the Council.

Section 3. Election and Term of Office. Councilors shall be elected by the members of the Chapter using a mail ballot of candidates or by a majority of those present at a Chapter business meeting, and shall serve three-year terms. Councilors are eligible to succeed themselves for one additional term. The CCA representative shall be appointed by Council, after receiving input from the CCA members and shall serve a three-year term. The FIT representatives shall also be appointed by Council and shall serve one-year terms.

Section 4. Vacancies. A vacancy on the Council for members other than the President may be filled by action of the members of the Council at any meeting of the Council. The individual so appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve the remaining unexpired term of his/her predecessor.

Section 5. Meetings. Meetings of the Council may be called by the Chapter President, who also serves as Chairman of the Council, or at the request of six (6) Council members. The President shall fix the place for holding all Council meetings unless otherwise directed by the Council. The Council shall meet at least twice each year.

Section 6. Notice. A notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be mailed to each Council member not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting. Emergency meetings may be called by telephone notification twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting as long as two-thirds of the Council can be present for the meeting.

Section 7. Quorum. Seven members of the Council, when duly called and assembled, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Council.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

Section 1. Establishment and Composition. Committees may be established by the Council at any duly called and constituted meeting. The size, purposes and powers of any such committee shall be as determined by Council. The President of the Chapter shall, in consultation with the Council, appoint the members of each such committee. All standing committee appointments must have the approval of the Council. The term of service of any

committee member may be terminated by the President, whenever, in the judgment of the President and the Council the best interests of the Chapter shall be served by such termination.

Section 2. Term of Office. The term of office for the members of all committees, shall be one year without limit for succession.

Section 3. Chairman. The President of the Chapter shall appoint a chairman for each committee, with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

Section 4. Vacancies. Vacancies in the membership of any committee shall be filled by appointments made by the Chapter President. Standing committee replacements require the approval of the Council. The individual so appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of his/her predecessor.

Section 5. Reporting. All Chapter committees shall report to the Council.

Section 6. Standing Committees. Standing Committees of the Chapter shall be: Third Party Reimbursement Committee, Nominating Committee, Education Committee, and Finance Committee.

Section 7. Special Committees. Upon recommendation by the Chapter President, the Council may establish special or ad hoc committees to address special subjects of interest to the Chapter.

Section 8. Nominating Committee.

Committee Composition: The Immediate Past President shall serve on this committee. With the Immediate Past President representing his/her area, the Chapter President shall appoint six (6) additional Chapter members to this committee. This process shall produce seven (7) members with no more than two members from any one district. At least four (4) of these members should be members of the Council. The Immediate Past President shall not be eligible to serve as committee chairman. Each year, the chairman of the committee shall be elected by the members of the committee.

Term of Committee Membership: The term of the Immediate Past President shall be for as long as that individual holds office as Immediate Past President of the Chapter. The remaining seven (7) members of the committee shall serve one-year terms. No member shall be eligible to serve a second consecutive term on the committee. Vacancies in the membership of this committee shall be filled by the process set forth in Article VI, Section 4 of the Bylaws.

Charge and Function of Nominating Committee: The committee shall recommend to the Council one or more nominees who have agreed to serve for each area Councilor position and if necessary for Councilor at-large and for Secretary-Treasurer whose term is due to expire. Two (2) nominees should be chosen whenever possible. Nominations shall be restricted to Active members of the Chapter residing in the area where the vacancy is to occur. The committee shall not nominate any of its members to any position on the ballot. The Nominating Committee is charged in making their nominations for the Council that whenever possible, consideration be given for a balanced representation on the Council (i.e., Adult Cardiology, Pediatric Cardiology, Cardiovascular Surgery, Private Practice, Academic Practice).

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Business Meeting. The Chapter shall hold an annual business meeting, open to all members and invited guests, at a time and place designated by the Council. The

Council is described in Article V of these Bylaws. The purpose of the meeting shall be to transact any business that may come before the Chapter.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President after consultation with the Council or upon written request of not less than twenty percent (20%) of the membership.

Section 3. Notice of Meeting. A notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting shall be mailed to each member of the Chapter not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting. In the case of special meetings, the purpose or purposes of the meeting shall be stated in the notification and no other business shall be transacted except that stated in the call.

ARTICLE VIII DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Annual dues and assessments shall be set by the Council and approved by the American College of Cardiology prior to implementation. The American College of Cardiology shall be responsible for billing all ACC members in the state of Georgia for Chapter dues. Upon receipt of the dues payment, the American College of Cardiology shall promptly remit such payments to the Chapter Secretary-Treasurer. Active members, with the exception of Distinguished Fellows, and Cardiac Care Associates (CCA's) shall be deemed as dues paying members. Dues shall be waived for Emeritus members, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliate-in-Training members.

ARTICLE IX REPORTING

The Chapter shall submit to the American College of Cardiology an annual report that includes:

- a) a statement of income and expenses signed by a duly-authorized Chapter officer (usually the Secretary-Treasurer);
- b) a copy of Internal Revenue Service Form 990 and other required IRS forms submitted by the Chapter; and
- c) a summary of Chapter activities for the previous twelve-month period and plans for the coming year.

ARTICLE X CHAPTER AND NATIONAL RELATIONS

Neither the Chapter nor any of its officers, or members, is authorized to represent or in any way bind the American College of Cardiology, unless authorized to do so by the College President, nor will any of them in any way hold themselves out as being authorized to do so without specific authorization of the College President. The College shall inform the Chapter of all policy and position statements in order for Chapter statements to be consistent with those of the College, and major new policy statements by the Chapter shall be developed in consultation with College leadership. The relationship between the Chapter and the governing bodies of the American College of Cardiology is defined in the American College of Cardiology Constitution and Bylaws. Article XI of the Constitution states that: 1) Chapters may be organized under guidelines established by the ACC Board of Trustees for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the College; 2) Articles of Certificate of Incorporation

and Bylaws of each Chapter must be approved by the Board of Trustees of the College; and 3) after incorporation, no Chapter shall amend, restate, or otherwise change the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws or other governing documents without the approval of the ACC Board of Trustees.

The American College of Cardiology may terminate Chapter status for any Chapter if the ACC Board of Trustees finds that the Chapter has engaged in activities detrimental to the best interests of the College. The Chapter shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard pursuant to such reasonable procedures as the ACC Board of Trustees shall provide.

ARTICLE XI INDEMNIFICATION

To the full extent permitted by law, the Chapter may indemnify any and all of its officers, council members and committee members for certain expenses and other amounts paid in connection with legal proceedings in which any such person becomes involved by reason of serving in any such capacity with or for the Chapter. The Chapter may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any or all officers, Council members or committee members against any liability asserted against any such person, and incurred in any such capacity, whether or not the Chapter would have the power to indemnify them against such liability under the provisions of this article.

ARTICLE XII ETHICS

Members of the Chapter are expected to exhibit high ethical and moral standards. The Bylaws of the American College of Cardiology provide a mechanism for addressing matters related to the ethical conduct of all members of the College.

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

Bylaws may be amended or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by mail ballot or at any duly called meeting of the Chapter with a two-thirds (2/3) approval by the respondents or those voting at the meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed change or changes has been mailed to each voting member at least thirty (30) days before the final vote count. However, before becoming effective such amendments must have the approval of the Board of Trustees of the American College of Cardiology.

Award

Lifetime Achievement

This award honors an adult or pediatric cardiologist or cardiovascular surgeon who has provided outstanding contributions to medicine through patient care, medical education, teaching, research or community service as a member of the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Cardiology and whose lifetime of service deserves special recognition. The award is to consist of a shadowbox with an engraved plate and ACC logo.