

The Fourth Asian Cardiovascular Symposium, a joint effort with the BCVS Council

Promoting the AHA mission and BCVS theme of increasing international participants, members, and networking, the Asian Cardiovascular Symposium (ACS) was initiated in 2019 as part of the BCVS Scientific Sessions in Boston, MA. It represents a joint initiative by four individual Asian societies, including the Academy of Cardiovascular Research Excellence (ACRE), Japanese Cardiovascular Research Association (JCRA), Korean Cardiovascular Society (KCS), and Society for South Asian Heart Research (SAHR), all working with and supported by the BCVS Council. This conference occurs one day before the BCVS Scientific Session each year to celebrate the scientific advancements of Asian scientists and to foster collaboration and camaraderie. Due to COVID-19, the second (2020) and the third (2021) ACS meetings were held virtually. Thankfully, the fourth ACS meeting hosted over 200 attendees in person, nearly 30% of the total 2022 BVCS participation. Of those attending, 65% are ACRE members, 25% are from SAHA, and 10% are from KCS. Despite the resurgence of COVID-19, people from several other Asian countries, including Vietnam and the Philippines, safely and successfully participated in the event. Riveting oral presentations were freely available, and each society honoring exemplary research with awards. Stimulating research was also evident in work presented in 134 posters. The keynote speaker was the AHA president-elect, Joseph Wu, MD, PhD. The highlight of the evening was seeing the research efforts of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, early career scientists, and junior faculty. Celebrating non-academic achievements, this year's ACS introduced the BCVS' Got Talent Show at the end of the evening session, where we were treated to vocal performances, violin solos, and multicultural music and dancing. The overall planning and execution of the ACS program are in charge by the four societies in turn, and this year, by ACRE.



Attendees packed in the ACRE oral session (top left), a view of the joint poster session (bottom left), and recognition of the keynote speaker, Joseph Wu, MD, PhD, by Drs. Jiang Chang, Young-Sup Soon, Sakthivel Sadayappan (center), and BCVS' Got Talent Show by BCVS members (top right and bottom right).