Foreword

Dear 17th ASCVTS 2009 Participants,

With your kind support and active participation, the 17th Annual Meeting of Asian Society of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery (17th ASCVTS 2009), held from March 5th to March 8th, 2009 in Taipei was a big success.

There were 1166 attendees, over two hundreds lectures presented by speakers from more than 20 countries and 462 papers were accepted from more than 35 countries in the 17th ASCVTS 2009. In addition, AATS/ASCVTS Postgraduate Course, Minimally Invasive Thoracic course, Mechanical Life Support Workshop and Endovascular Aortic Stenting Course, were all highly appreciated by the participants. Similarly, the Exhibition has drawn more than 32 exhibitors and thousands of visitors in four days.

Take this opportunity, we would like to thank Monduzzi Editore International Proceedings Division who makes this proceeding possible and enhances the value of this meeting. Although this proceeding contain only 5% of our presentations in the meeting, but its still of great scientific significance. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the speakers who offer their presentation during the 17th Annual Meeting of ASCVTS in this proceeding.

Yours turly,

Tarng-Jenn Yu, M.D.
Chairman, The Organizing Committee of 17th ASCVTS Annual Meeting 2009 Taipei
President, Taiwan Association of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (2006-2009)
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