FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Judy W. Hung Elected President of the American Society of Echocardiography

Durham, NC, July 1, 2020 – Judy W. Hung, MD, FASE, takes the helm as president of the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) today. She has served on the Board of Directors as Vice President and President-Elect prior to ascending to her one-year presidency.

Dr. Hung will share her vision for the future of ASE on Saturday, August 8, during the opening session of the ASE 2020 Scientific Sessions Virtual Experience. When asked about her upcoming presidency, she said “I see tremendous opportunity for ASE to advance its mission to be the leader of quality, education, innovation, research, and advocacy in the field of cardiovascular ultrasound. ASE is currently well-positioned to adapt to the changing and challenging healthcare environment and to lead innovation in echocardiography through its international reputation, organizational infrastructure, and commitment to quality and research. I have a deep admiration and belief in the goals and mission of the ASE and the dedication of my ASE member colleagues.”

Dr. Hung is Director of the Echocardiography Lab, Division of Cardiology, at Massachusetts General Hospital and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. She has a special interest in valvular heart disease, coronary artery disease, and optimizing noninvasive cardiac imaging techniques to improve diagnosis and treatment of heart disease. Her research involves understanding mechanisms of valvular heart disease and development of novel therapies to treat valve disease. Dr. Hung received her undergraduate degree from Harvard University and her medical degree from Tufts University. She completed her internship in medicine at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles before becoming a cardiovascular research fellow at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) Medical Center, San Diego, CA where she also completed her medical residency training. Dr. Hung moved to Massachusetts General Hospital in 1994 where she completed a two-year general cardiology fellowship and then obtained subspecialty training completing a two-year clinical and research advanced echocardiography fellowship. This fellowship included training in Adult Congenital Heart Disease at Children’s Hospital in Boston, MA. Upon completion of her clinical and research fellowship training, Dr. Hung joined the Cardiology Division in the Department of Medicine, at Massachusetts General Hospital as an attending cardiologist.

Dr. Hung has a long record of service to the Society. She has served in a number of roles across the organization including Chair of the 2013 Scientific Sessions Committee, Chair of the Education Committee 2014-2017, and a member of the Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography Editorial Board, the Workflow and Lab Management Task Force, and the Finance committee. In 2001, she presented the 11th Annual Feigenbaum Lecture titled, “A Tale of Two Leaflets: Innovation in Echocardiography.” In addition to committee work, Dr. Hung has also served on the writing groups of a number of ASE guideline publications. Most recently she was the lead author on the ASE Statement on the Reintroduction of Echocardiography Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic.
Joining Dr. Hung as new members of the 2020-2021 Executive Committee are Vice President, Stephen H. Little, Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center, Houston, TX (his term begins Sept. 1, 2020); and Council Representative, Meryl Cohen, MD, FASE, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA.

Continuing ASE officers include: President-Elect, Raymond Stainback, MD, FASE, Texas Heart Institute, Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center, Houston, TX; Treasurer, Carol Mitchell, PhD, RDMS, RDCS, RVT, RT(R), ACS, FASE, University of Wisconsin Hospital, Madison, WI; Immediate Past President, Madhav Swaminathan, MD, FASE, of Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC; and Secretary, Matt Umland, ACS, RDCS, FASE, Aurora Health Care, Milwaukee, WI.

In addition to the new officers, the ASE membership has elected the following new board of directors members to two-year terms: Keith A. Collins, MS, RDCS, FASE, Northwestern Medicine, Chicago, IL (Council on Cardiovascular Sonography Representative); Danita Sanborn, MD, MMSc, FASE, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA; Vincent Sorrell, MD, FASE, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY; Ritu Thamman, MD, FASE, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA; and Bryan Wells, MD, FASE, Emory Healthcare, Atlanta, GA (Council on Circulation & Vascular Ultrasound Representative).

Board members continuing with their final year of service include Piers Barker, MD, FASE, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC (Pediatric Council Steering Committee Chair); Alina Nicoara, MD, FASE, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC (Perioperative Council Steering Committee Chair); Alan S. Pearlman, MD, FASE, Seattle, WA (Past President representative); Peter Rahko, MD, FASE, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI; Jennifer Schaaf, BS, ACS, RDCS, FASE, The Christ Hospital Health Network, Cincinnati, OH; Vandana Sachdev, MD, FASE, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, MD; and Cathy West, MSc, DMU (CARDIAC), AMS, EACVI CHD, FASE, Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK (International representative); and Geoffrey Rose, MD, FASE, Sanger Heart & Vascular Center, Charlotte, NC.

This announcement underscores the organization’s commitment to reflecting the talent and diversity of the cardiovascular field. With the new members, the leadership’s gender makeup now comprises 47 percent women and contains representatives from major sub-specialties in the field including circulation, pediatrics, anesthesiology, sonography, and interventional echo.

ASE is the Society for Cardiovascular Ultrasound Professionals™. Over 17,000 physicians, sonographers, nurses, and scientists are members of ASE making it the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging and as such the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines for the field. The Society is committed to advancing cardiovascular ultrasound to improve lives. For more information about ASE, visit ASEcho.org and follow us @ASE360. For more information about the ASE Scientific Sessions visit ASEScientificSessions.org. For more information about ASE’s charitable arm, ASE Foundation, visit ASEFoundation.org.

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