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MMRI executive director elected fellow of international society

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UTICA — Maria Kontaridis, executive director of the Masonic Medical Research Institute, 2150 Bleecker St., has been elected a fellow of the International Society for Heart Research.

The ISHR is a non-profit professional society of scientists working in the field of heart and cardiovascular research. The ISHR has held 24 World Congresses since its founding in 1968.

It is comprised of seven regional sections, representing Australasian, Chinese, European, Indian, Japanese, Latin American and North American members. It also publishes the peer-reviewed medical journal, “Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology.”

Kontaridis was selected to be part of the group during the ISHR World Conference in June in Berlin, Germany. Opportunities to become an ISHR fellow are few, the announcement said. The previous ISHR World Congress was in 2019 in Beijing, China, and the next one won't be held until 2025 in Nara, Japan.

“Fellows were selected solely on the basis of scientific excellence, as evidenced by an established track record of publications in high-impact journals.

The main criterion in assigning Fellowship status is the performance of independent research that has made a major contribution to advancing our understanding of cardiovascular biology and medicine,” the ISHR said.

Kontaridis is recognized as a leading scientist in the field of heart and cardiovascular research and innovation, and she has published a number of articles in peer-reviewed journals. In addition to leading the MMRI, and running her own research laboratory, Kontaridis is also the Gordon K. Moe Professor and Chair of Biomedical Research and Translational Medicine at MMRI.

Founded in 1958, MMRI is a non-profit, independent research center specializing in advancing scientific understanding of cardiovascular, autoimmune, and neurodegenerative disorders.

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