The AATS appreciates the opportunity to provide a report to the TSDA. Below we have highlighted a number of important Resident and Medical Student opportunities being offered by the Association which we hope you might share with colleagues at your institution. Additional details on these activities can be found on either the AATS (www.aats.org) or AATS Foundation (www.AATSFoundation.org) websites.

The mission of the AATS is to Promote Scholarship, Innovation, and Leadership in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. Its leadership and its members aspire to hold the AATS core values of Leadership, Education, Research and Innovation, Excellence in Patient Care, and Mentoring.

The AATS Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of many AATS initiatives. The Foundation, with the support of the Association, offers training awards and educational experiences in order to provide medical students, residents, and cardiothoracic surgeons with opportunities to enhance their professional development, and to ensure long-term strength of their specialty.

Cardiothoracic Residents

The AATS opportunities available to residents include:

- **Cardiothoracic Ethics Forum Scholarship**
  Grants opportunities for intellectual development and preparation for leadership roles in CT ethics. The Forum (supported by the AATS and STS) offers scholarships for interested CT surgeons or trainees who are interested in biomedical ethics and show promise of providing leadership for the continuing development and flourishing of ethics education for CT surgery. The selected awardee will receive formal education and training in biomedical ethics through programs offered by leading ethics centers.

- **Resident Involvement on AATS Committees**
  For several years the AATS has worked with the TSRA and appointed residents to serve on the Association’s Education, Scientific and Government Relations, Information Technology, and Cardiothoracic Residents Committees. Residents have also been involved in our interaction with the AAMC, serving actively as ad hoc reviewers on the AATS Annual Meeting Abstract Committee, and participating on the Editorial Board of the Association’s Op Techs.

- **Registration to AATS Meetings**
  Residents and trainees receive access to scientific content at AATS Meetings at significantly reduced registration rates.
Annual Meeting Opportunities

- **C. Walton Lillehei Forum**
  This year the Lillehei Abstracts will include nine presentations comprised of the top three abstracts in each specialty, adult cardiac, thoracic, and congenital heart. Lillehei presenters will receive complimentary registration to the Meeting. There will be three Lillehei Award winners, one representing each subspecialty with each winner receiving $3,000.

- **Survival Guide: Your First Night on Call**
  Designed to present early trainees and the surgical team with common clinical scenarios which they may encounter, with an emphasis on problem-solving and communication rather than standard lectures. Attendees will participate in a number of stations to learn how to recognize, assess, and manage common post-operative complications and issues and well as develop skills for transferring this knowledge to other members of the team. This Session is open to all residents in attendance and will be held from 7:45am – 9:30am and 2:00pm – 4:00pm on Sunday, May 5th.

- **Cardiothoracic Residents Luncheon: Preparing Yourself for an Academic Career**
  Residents and medical students will be exposed to the non-technical skills associated with a career in academic cardiothoracic surgery that are important to the next generation of leaders in the specialty. Luncheon will be held on Sunday, May 5th at 12:30pm – 2:00pm.

- **Resident Poster Competition**
  Enables senior CT surgery residents and/or congenital heart surgery fellows from around the world to present a poster of their clinical or laboratory research at the AATS Annual Meeting. Held during the Welcome Reception on Saturday, May 4th from 5:30pm – 7:30pm.

- **Resident Case Report Competition**
  Provides an opportunity for residents to present an original case study on an interesting/unusual case and identify the issues faced and the means used to resolve it. Successful applicants will present their cases in a competitive setting within the AATS Exhibit Hall. Held during the Welcome Reception on Saturday, May 4th from 5:30pm – 6:30pm.

- **Member for a Day Program**
  Now on its fourth year, this program provides successful applicants the opportunity to accompany an AATS Member Mentor during segments of the AATS Annual Meeting. Awardees receive complimentary registration to the Meeting along with stipends to help offset travel and meal costs.

**Medical Students**

The AATS and its Foundation have continued outreach to medical students in several important ways:

- **Summer Intern Scholarship**
  Provides first and second-year medical students with an eight-week summer internship in an AATS member’s CT surgery department. Includes a $2,500 grant for living expenses.