Since the last Workforce activity report submitted in January 2014, this group has focused on the following projects:

**STS Residents Symposium and STS Residents Luncheon**
Both the STS Residents Symposium and the STS Residents Luncheon had excellent turnout at the STS 50th Annual Meeting. A new format was employed for the STS Residents Symposium whereby six topics were addressed by subject matter experts, followed by roundtable discussions. Presentation topics included: How to Find a Position; Interviewing and Self-Marketing; Contract Negotiations; Adding New Technologies/Team Building; Billing & Coding; and Early Career Development. Attendees gave high marks to the presentations and table discussions, and indicated at future symposiums they would like more attention given to finding a mentor, developing a foundation for an academic career, and navigating the early career transition issues. The STS Residents Luncheon also received excellent marks from attendees and provided an opportunity for residents to network with surgeon leaders and address a number of issues, including different approaches to training, gaps in educational paradigms, and how CT surgeons should invest their efforts on behalf of the specialty. Surgeon leader attendees included members of the STS Board of Directors, Workforce Chairs, Looking to the Future Mentors, and TSDA and TSRA leaders. Suggested topics for future luncheons included opportunities for foreign-trained early careerists, the pros and cons of 2, 3, and 6 year residency programs, strategies for finding a job, mentorship, and implementation of the TSDA/JCTSE Thoracic Surgical Curriculum.

**Looking to the Future Scholarship Program**
Forty Looking to the Future Scholars attended the STS 50th Annual Meeting (20 medical students, 20 general surgery residents). 2014 represents the 9th year of the LTTF program, and the program continues to gain in popularity as demonstrated by the annual increase in applications. Programming included a Medical Student Program, a General Surgery Resident program, receptions, networking opportunities, parallel sessions, plenary sessions, and STSU for General Surgery Residents. The mentor portion of the program received excellent feedback from scholars and 100% of scholars rated the program valuable (7%) or very valuable (93%). Demographics included 40% female recipients among the resident group, and 50% female recipients among the medical student group. Due to the popularity and success of the LTTF program, the Task Force is considering expanding the program by +5 medical students and +5 residents in 2015. Budget estimates as well as the impact on any expansion of the administrative staff support needed are under review.

**Transitions to Practice Task Force**
A final version of the survey instrument was provided to the ABTS. The Task Force continues to participate in conference calls with members of the ACC Early Career Section Leadership Council to discuss potential collaborations between the two groups, including database, joint educational, mentorship, and MOC/CME projects. The Task Force will also consider ways to address early career development and transition issues.