The AATS appreciates the opportunity to provide a report to the TSDA. As you will see below we’ve tried to highlight a number of important Resident and Medical Student opportunities being offered by the Association which we hope you might share with those at your institution. Additional details on these activities can be found on either the AATS (www.aats.org) or AATS Graham Foundation (www.AATSGrahamFoundation.org) websites.

AATS Overview:
The mission of the AATS has evolved since its founding almost 100 years ago to its present goal of Promoting Scholarship, Innovation, and Leadership in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. Its leadership and its members aspire to emulate the motto: "We Model Excellence" while holding to the AATS core values of Leadership, Scholarship, Mentoring, Excellence in Patient Care, Integrity and Professionalism.

AATS Graham Foundation:
Since its founding in 1973, the AATS Graham Foundation has served as the philanthropic arm of many AATS initiatives. Over the past 40 years the Foundation has evolved with the Association and the specialty to provide training awards and educational opportunities to ensure cardiothoracic surgeons, residents and medical students are provided opportunities to enhance their professional development ensuring the long term strength of the specialty.

Medical Student Outreach
During the past year the AATS and its Foundation have continued its outreach to medical students in several important ways, notably;

• **Summer Intern Scholarship** – Introduces the field of cardiothoracic surgery to first and second year medical students in a North American medical school by providing a $2,500 stipend to spend eight weeks during the summer (June thru September) working in a North American cardiothoracic surgery department. To date 250 Medical Students from 80 unique institutions have participated. Interns also receive one year complimentary online subscriptions to *Operative Techniques* and *Seminars and Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, quarterly publications.

• **AATS Member for a Day** – New for 2014, this program will provide an opportunity for up to 20 medical students and general surgery residents to accompany AATS and TSRA mentors during a portion of the 2014 AATS Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada. The program is designed to offer insights into the cardiothoracic surgery specialty and to provide an opportunity to network and build relationships within the surgical community.

• **Medical Student and General Surgery Resident Session at the Annual Meeting** – Accompanying the Member for a Day Program in Toronto during the 2014 Annual Meeting, a 90 minute session co-chaired by the TSRA will be held on Saturday for medical students and general surgery residents to gain a better understanding of the cardiothoracic surgery pathway and important issues that arise when pursuing a career in the specialty.

• **Registrations to AATS Meetings** – Medical Students receive complimentary registration to the AATS Annual Meeting (including Saturday and Sunday courses), as well as significantly reduced registration ($75) to all other AATS Meetings.
Resident Outreach

In addition to medical students, we’ve also enhanced the number of opportunities available to residents such as:

- **Resident Involvement on AATS Committees** – For the past three years the AATS has worked with the TSRA in appointing residents to serve on the Association’s Education, Scientific and Government Relations, Web and Cardiothoracic Residents Committees. Residents have also been involved in our interaction with the AAMC and have served actively as ad hoc reviewers on our Annual Meeting Abstract Committee.

- **Reduced Registration to AATS Meetings** – Residents receive complimentary registration to the AATS Annual Meeting (including Saturday and Sunday courses), as well as significantly reduced registration to all other AATS Meetings.

- **Annual Meeting Resident Poster Session** – Following up on its successful launch in 2013, this year’s Poster session will provide an opportunity for upwards of 80 CT Surgery Chief Residents from across the world to present a poster of their clinical or laboratory research during the Annual Meeting’s Sunday evening Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall.

- **C. Walton Lillehei Forum** - Held at the Annual Meeting since 1998 and moved to Monday afternoon at the 2014 Annual Meeting, the Forum provides 8 resident abstract presentations with the selected winner receiving a $5,000 award. All presenters receive complimentary registration, economy airfare, and accommodations at the Annual Meeting.

- **Resident Critical Care Scholarship** – Having just completed its second year, this scholarship provides residents an opportunity to spend two and a half days at the FACTS-Care Critical Care Conference. Registration and a stipend of $500 is provided to the resident’s institution to help offset the cost of travel and hotel accommodations.

- **JTCVS Subscriptions** - Through an educational grant provided by Edwards LifeSciences, all North American residents receive a complimentary print subscription to the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* (JTCVS).

- **Journal Subscriptions** - provides all North American residents with complimentary one-year electronic subscriptions to *Operative Techniques* and *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*.

- **Thoracic Surgery News** - This monthly publication serves to keep the specialty abreast of current cardiothoracic surgery news and events. The “Resident’s Corner”, overseen by two resident Associate Editors, provides current news of importance to residents.

- **AATS Leadership Academy** - The program exposes potential future leaders in our specialty to the administrative, interpersonal, and mentoring skills necessary to serve in a leadership position within their institution as well as the surgical community at large. The 2014 program is focused on individuals who have concluded their residency and been in an academic appointment for less than three years or will be finishing their residency in 2014 and starting an academic appointment upon its conclusion.