Medical Student & Resident Opportunities Report to the TSDA

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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 Graham Foundation (www.AATSGrahamFoundation.org) websites.

AATS and the AATS Graham Foundation

The mission of the AATS is to Promote 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.

The AATS Graham Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of many AATS initiatives. The Foundation, with the support of the Association, provides 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

AATS provides a number of opportunities available to residents.

- **C. Walton Lillehei Forum**
  Enables six residents to present and compete for a $5,000 award at the AATS Annual Meeting by funding their registration and travel expenses. This year’s Forum will be held in CT Theater (Booth 106) in the Exhibit Hall, on Monday, May 1st from 12:45-2:00pm.

- **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 the emphasis being on problem-solving and communication rather than standard lectures. Participants will be split into four groups and each group will spend 25 minutes at each station learning 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. Held from 11:45am – 4:00pm on Saturday, April 29th.

- **Cardiothoracic Residents Breakfast: Preparing Yourself for an Academic Career**
  Cardiothoracic surgery residents, general surgery 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. Available to residents/fellows and medical students only. Participation is complimentary, however, pre-registration is required. Held from 6:30 – 8:25am on Tuesday, May 2nd.
• **Registration to AATS Meetings**
   Residents receive discounted registration packets to the AATS Centennial and Annual Meeting which includes the Saturday and Sunday courses. Additionally, they receive discounted registration to all other AATS Meetings.

• **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. Recipients each receive a $500 grant to offset travel/accommodations and complimentary registration to the conference. This year’s Competition will take place in the Exhibit Hall on Sunday, April 30th from 5:00-7:00pm.

• **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* and the *TSN* publications.

• **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.

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**Medical Students**

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

• **Registrations to AATS Meetings**
   Medical students receive discounted registration packets to the AATS Centennial and Annual Meeting which includes the Saturday and Sunday courses. Additionally, they receive discounted registration to all other AATS Meetings.

• **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. AATS Summer interns also receive a complimentary, one-year subscription to the *Thoracic Surgery News*.

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**Medical Students, General Surgery Residents, and I-6 Cardiothoracic Residents**

• **Member for a Day Program**
   Now on its third year, this program provides North American medical students, general surgery residents and integrated CT residents (within their first three years) the opportunity to accompany an AATS Member Mentor and/or Thoracic Surgery Residents Association member during segments of the AATS Annual Meeting. Awardees receive $750 in stipends to offset travel and meal costs. All medical students, general surgery residents, I-6 CT residents, and American Physician Scientist Association Members attending the Annual Meeting are welcome to attend the Session which will be held from 7:30pm – 9:00pm on Saturday, April 29th, 2017.
Post Residency

- **AATS Research Scholarship**
  Supports North American surgeons with a two-year $160,000 grant to pursue research, training and clinical experience. Scholarships are named after past presidents of the Association. To date, 39 awardees have received over $4 million in grants.

  **Deadline to Apply: July 1, 2017**

- **Advanced Valve Disease Educational Fellowship - Sponsored by Medtronic**
  Offers surgeons the opportunity to interactively observe valvular heart disease specialists and connect with them about treatment, technical skills, and management of perioperative patients for a minimum of one month to three months.

  **Deadline to Apply: July 1, 2017**

- **Denton A. Cooley Fellowship**
  Provides an educational experience for North American thoracic surgeons who are in their final year of their residency or have recently completed their residency within the past two years to spend four weeks studying at the Texas Heart Institute and Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center.

- **Evarts A. Graham Traveling Fellowship**
  Enhances the training of international academic CT surgeons and increases their international contacts by underwriting one-year of study at North American institutions. Includes a $75,000 stipend and round-trip airfare. Since 1951, fellows have included 65 individuals from 33 countries.

  **Deadline to Apply: July 1, 2017**

- **Every Heartbeat Matters Valve Fellowship - Sponsored by Edwards Lifesciences Foundation**
  Supports up to three months of advanced heart valve disease training and education to enhance the knowledge and skills of practicing cardiothoracic surgeons who are already treating or committed to treating underserved patients worldwide.

- **Every Heartbeat Matters Travel Awards for the AATS Annual Meeting - Sponsored by Edwards Lifesciences Foundation**
  Surgeons from around the world are eligible for a limited number of travel awards to the 2017 AATS Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. These awards are available to surgeons demonstrating a financial need and who treat heart valve disease patients in underserved populations.

- **F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship**
  Supports surgeons who have finished their residencies to advance their clinical techniques at a North American host institute for four to six weeks of training. This is the first “Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship,” a program acknowledging the leadership and dedication of surgeons in the field.

- **Graham Surgical Investigator Program**
  Provides up to $50,000 annually to support innovative clinical or translational research by young CT surgeons for up to two years.

- **James L. Cox Fellowship in Atrial Fibrillation Surgery - Sponsored by AtriCure**
  Gives newly graduated CT surgeons the opportunity to spend two to four weeks improving their atrial fibrillation techniques at a host institution.

- **Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery/AATS Graham Foundation Fellowship**
  This program is primarily geared to young Japanese cardiothoracic surgeons to provide an interactive educational opportunity to observe and have discussions with specialists in the treatment of heart valve disease at select host institutions in North America.
• **Lawrence H. Cohn Clinical Scholar Program**
  This program is for young cardiac surgeons who are in the final year of their residency or have recently completed their residency and are interested in obtaining an advanced experience with valvular surgery or care.

• **Learn from the Masters: A Clinical Program**
  Offers cardiac surgeons from around the world who have recently completed their residency or fellowship. The award will support the applicant to spend three or six months at the Mentor’s institution either in North America or abroad.

• **Marc R. de Leval Fellowship**
  Provides opportunities for North American trainees and early career congenital heart surgeons to spend four to six weeks obtaining an international surgical experience at an institution in Europe or the United Kingdom as part of their education. The AATS Graham Foundation is proud to recognize this as the second “Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship,” program.

• **North America Clinical Immersion in Advanced Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery Fellowship - Sponsored by Medtronic**
  Offers young Chinese surgeons the opportunity to spend up to three months obtaining expertise in advanced minimally invasive thoracic surgery, comprehensive care screening and diagnosis at North American institutions.

• **Surgical Robotics Fellowship – Sponsored by Intuitive Surgical**
  Familiarizes North American general thoracic fellows and their attending surgeons with the Da Vinci robotics system during two days of onsite, advanced training. Includes a $2,500 grant to defray airfare and accommodations at the training center. Awardees who complete the fellowship will be eligible to participate in the Advanced Lobectomy Course.

• **Thoracic Surgery Training Fellowship – Sponsored by Ethicon China**
  Offers young Chinese surgeons the opportunity to spend between one month and one year obtaining advanced thoracic surgery skills at North American institutions.