

Workforce on Thoracic Surgery Resident Development

Elizabeth David, Chair

Beth Winer, Staff Liaison

01/20/2023

Mission Statement:

Provide educational content to medical students and surgical residents regarding careers and life as a cardiothoracic surgeon.

Objectives:

1. Develop and deliver the STS Residents Symposium for the STS Annual Meeting to foster interest and share knowledge about the early career of cardiothoracic surgeons.
2. Design and execute the STS Looking to the Future Scholarship program to provide mentorship and exposure to the field of cardiothoracic surgery for future trainees.
3. Provide outreach and representation of the STS to medical student organizations pertaining to careers in cardiothoracic surgery.
4. Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of CT surgery as part of the member engagement survey.

Current Task Force(s) Under This Workforce (if any):

Residents Symposium Planning Task Force

Task Force Chair: Elisabeth (Betsy) Dexter

Task Force Vice Chair: Arnar Geirsson

Task Force Members: Melanie Edwards, Manisha Shende, Leonard Lee, Pauline Go, Sean Jordan, Aundrea Oliver, Syed Shahzad Rizvi

Staff Liaison: Beth Winer

Task Force Mission Statement:

Plan an educational symposium of non-clinical subjects addressing the transition from surgical training to cardiothoracic surgery practice of interest to cardiothoracic and general surgery trainees.

Objectives:

1. Develop and deliver practical information regarding finding a first job as a cardiothoracic surgeon.
2. Provide information regarding early career decisions such as but not exclusive to:
 - a. Family planning/work-life balance
 - b. Financial planning
 - c. Building a clinical practice
 - d. Academic advancement
 - e. Building a research path
 - f. Surgical volunteer work
 - g. Participation in national societies or regulatory committees
 - h. Political awareness in the workplace

3. Provide information regarding the intersection of current issues and cardiothoracic surgery practice such as use of social media, the Sars Cov-19 pandemic, workplace diversity and discrimination impacting medical care.
4. Assess success of annual symposium and adjust format and topics for future programming.

Looking to the Future Scholarship Task Force

Task Force Chair: David Odell

Task Force Vice Chair: Sara Pereira

Staff Liaisons: Beth Winer, Maureen Ewing

Task Force Mission Statement:

Provide mentorship for the best and brightest medical students and general surgery residents in hopes of encouraging them to pursue careers in cardiothoracic surgery.

Objectives:

1. Identify Looking to the Future scholars to attend the STS Annual Meeting from among medical student and general surgery program applicants.
2. Pair scholars with cardiothoracic surgeon mentors for ongoing mentorship.
3. Provide information about cardiothoracic surgery trainee programs, including the application process and integrated and independent training pathways.
4. Expose scholars to clinical and non-clinical educational programming offered at the STS Annual Meeting.
5. Provide networking opportunities between scholars and cardiothoracic surgery trainees and practicing surgeons.

Key Workforce and Task Force Activities and Accomplishments Since Last Report:

1. STS Residents Luncheon: The Workforce will host the 2023 STS Residents Luncheon on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Attendees will include cardiothoracic and general surgery trainees, Looking to the Future scholars, and leaders in the surgical community. Attendees will be seated together and encouraged to discuss topics of interest to trainees, including but not limited to subspecialty training, dedicated research time, interventional and catheter-based skills during training, gaps in diversity, training paradigms, the current job market, and addressing non-clinical training needs. This open discussion format is consistently rated by participants as the most valued and appreciated aspect of the luncheon.
2. STS Residents Symposium: Workforce and Resident Symposium Planning Task Force will host the 2023 STS Residents Symposium on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 1:15 p.m.-2:15 p.m. for cardiothoracic and general surgery trainees, and Looking to the Future scholars. The session will provide attendees with practical information they may not receive as part of their formal training, and Q&A sessions will follow each talk. Speakers include practicing surgeons and trainees who will present:
 - Professional Comportment: How to Earn Respect from Your Work Colleagues, Staff and Fellow Trainees
 - Named in a Malpractice? Keep Calm, Consult with a Malpractice Lawyer, and Learn On

- I was Harassed as a Resident: What I Learned About Obtaining an Optimal Outcome
 - A Co-resident's Substance Abuse is Affecting Their Work: Now What? A question and answer period will follow the talks.
- 3.** Looking to the Future Scholarship: The WF and Looking to the Future Task Force awarded scholarships to 30 medical students and 30 general surgery residents. The program received 119 medical student and 76 general surgery resident applications. The Task Force created a dynamic agenda for the scholars, including programs specifically for medical students and another for general surgery residents, as well as networking opportunities, parallel sessions, symposiums, plenary sessions, and receptions. Mentors have been identified and each will be paired with one medical student and one general surgery resident mentee.