



Southern Thoracic Surgical Association  
66th Annual Meeting  
Marco Island, FL  
Business Meeting  
November 8, 2019

DR. JACOBS: Good afternoon. I'd like to ask everybody to take their seats so that we can get started with our business meeting.

I'd also like to ask all committee chairs and presenters that are presenting to sit towards the front of the room.

So welcome to the 2019 Annual Business Meeting of the Southern Thoracic.

We're going to start by welcoming all of our Past Presidents. So I would like all of the Past Presidents of the organization to stand to be acknowledged: Kevin Accola, John Calhoun, Ajay Carpenter, Cerf, Dr. Coselli, John Hammon, Gus Mavroudis, Walter Merrill, Joe Miller, Keith Naunheim, Robert Sade, and Ross Ungerleider. Round of applause for our past presidents.

(Applause).

DR. JACOBS: Okay and now I would like to ask all of the Council Members to stand up and be acknowledged: Kevin already stood, but he can stand again, Vinod, Alan, Shanda, Scott LeMaire, John Hammon, Melanie Edwards, Faisal,

Brett Reece, and Dr. Patterson.

(Applause).

DR. JACOBS: And now Kevin and I are going to present awards and certificates to the four outgoing council members. So I'd like to ask Faisal Bakaeen, Melanie Edwards, and Jay Zwischenberg, to come forward. I know Alan had to leave and we will be able to send him his award. And if all of you would come up and we'll hand you your awards and take some pictures. And thank you all for your tremendous dedicated years of service to the great Southern Thoracic.

(Applause).

DR. JACOBS: Thank you again, for your tremendous dedication and years of service to the Southern.

Okay, so now I would like to ask Shanda to come up and give us the report of the Secretary/Treasurer.

DR. BLACKMON: So our first activity is to review the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting. They are available online on stsa.org. I need...okay I have a motion for acceptance of

the minutes of the 2018 Annual Business Meeting.

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

DR. BLACKMON: This is the revision for the bylaws. We need a bylaws revision. They were sent to the membership in October and posted on the stsa.org. There are multiple different revisions, revising council members. Again, the category revision making the Chair for one year followed by Past President's following year. And then the Vice President shall serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee, and eliminating language from the Executive Committee and changing that as it was sent out. I need a call for a motion to accept the revisions of the bylaws.

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

DR. BLACKMON: I'll now update you on the membership category. This is a table of the membership by category. There are 710 Active Members, 378 Senior Members, and 59 Candidate Members, 19 Pre-Candidate Members, 12 Associate Members, and 8 Honorary Members, totaling 1,186.

There are 22 Active Membership new applicants, 4 Pre-Candidate, 4 Associate, and 12 Candidate Membership applicants.

The membership by category is seen in this pie chart with the predominant number as Active Members and the smaller number Senior, and even smaller Candidate, Pre-Candidate, Associate, and Honorary.

The financial history from 2013 to 2018. Actual with the update as of the end of 2018, we had 2.3 million dollars in net assets. This is the detailed history of our net assets over the years spanning from 2011 to 2018.

I'll now go through our investment status. In our portfolio we have 1.6 million dollars-plus in investment, with a net income loss of 145, expenses at 772,000, and revenue at 627,000.

I'll now introduce the new members. I'd like to ask that the new members present or attending the STSA Annual Meeting for the first time stand and be recognized.

(New members standing).

(Applause).

DR. BLACKMON: So at the end of the meeting the new members will be asked to come forward and they will receive their certificates and we'll have a photograph taken. Don't be like me and be confused and think that this is the Business Meeting so you can't come because you weren't a member. Now you're a member so you stay for the whole business meeting and then get your photograph at the end. Thank you.

We now have the report of the Council Chair.

DR. ACCOLA: Thank you this has been an incredible meeting once again. Each year the bar just gets raised high, and Jeff I just would like to personally congratulate you for just making this such a success again this year. I know you'll be acknowledged a lot this evening, I'm sure from all of our members, but personally all of us would like to thank you again as well for putting so much effort into this. Thank you.

(Applause)

DR. ACCOLA: I'd like to call the

Committee Co-Chairs individually to the microphone for brief one or two minute report. Report of the Program Committee, Dr. Dearani, Dr. Molena.

DR. MOLENA: Good afternoon. I'd like to first of all thank everyone from the Program Committee for the help and the fun to work together and to and really make this program possible so thank you to all of you. Also want to recognize and thank all of the abstract reviewers. Without you we could not do this so thank you very much for your help. And I am just going to show the names here.

We received 311 abstracts this year and we had 272 oral presentations, 32 videos, and 7 history presentations. As you can see here listed the different categories of the abstracts that were presented during the meeting.

Would like to especially make note that this meeting is particularly special for students and residents. We had a lot of very young persons that had participated and presented at this meeting, and we are really

proud of that. Also, as moderators we would like to keep that as a strength of this organization.

DR. ACCOLA: Next we'd like to have Dr. Kilic or Dr. Matthew Bott come up and give the report of the Postgraduate Committee. Thank you.

DR. BOTT: Good afternoon. On behalf of myself and Ahmet, I'd like to give a brief update on the Postgraduate Committee.

So just first to acknowledge the members of the Postgraduate Committee: I mentioned myself and Ahmet, Dr. Accola, Dr. LeMaire, Gorav Ailawadi, Todd Rosengart, Mark Block, and Damien LaPar. Thank you for all of your contributions.

The program this year was made in conjunction with President Jacobs and very much mirrored the format of last year's meeting, which was very well received by the membership. Part one was Wednesday evening. We had a case based presentation of challenging cases or cases where the presenters wished they could have done the case over again or done something



different. I think there were some excellent talks. I would like to thank all of those who participated in that session. Just as a reminder, part two of the postgraduate course will be tomorrow morning starting at 8:00 am. That will mirror the meeting themes of charity, innovation, and quality. Will have a talk from Dr. Dearani on charitable cardiothoracic surgery. There will be an interview with cardiothoracic surgery legend Dr. Cameron, which will touch on the theme of the innovation, and then finally Dr. Shahian will give a talk about quality in CT surgery. So I encourage all of you to attend. That's about it. Thank you.

DR. ACCOLA: Postgraduate Committee changing up the format I think over the past couple of years I think has really been a positive thing, and the Postgraduate Committee is to be congratulated for putting together such a stimulating program.

Is Dr. Andrew Lodge...will you come up and give the report of the Membership Committee?

DR. LODGE: Good afternoon. This will be a brief report of the Membership Committee.

This the roster of the Membership Committee. Would like to thank Dr. Gangemi, Dr. Keeling, and Dr. Van Gelder for their service.

As far as the new member applicants and the variety of categories. There were 4 Pre-Candidate Member applicants listed here. There were a number of 12 total Candidate Member applicants listed here in this slide and the next. There are 4 Associate or non-physician member applicants listed here. Then we had 22 Active Member applications. They are listed on the following slides alphabetically by state. Applicants in Florida, Louisiana, from Maryland, from Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington D.C.. I'd like to make a motion for acceptance of all the members. The Membership Committee found them all to be acceptable applicants and move to accept them all.

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

DR. ACCOLA: Scott LeMaire do give us

your report of the Director of Continuing Medical Education.

DR. LEMAIRE: Good afternoon. Following the 2018 meeting, part of the CME processes to collect comments in reviews related to the meeting and we take those very seriously. We had 247 who completed the evaluation last year and we use that information and the comments in there to craft the current meeting and will do so again for next year. Importantly 98% of respondents had favorable comments related to the overall quality of the program. 99% had positive comments about the quality of the speakers. Specific issues related to, first of all the change in the format, this is now the third year where we've split the Postgraduate course in between Wednesday evening and Saturday morning and the comments last year continued to be very positive and I think we've seen that's worked out for this year as well. Last year we had video presentations in the exhibitor hall and there was some problems with that. There were multiple comments that that did not serve to be a particularly good venue

for those, and hence the change in the format this year and got away from putting the videos in the exhibit hall.

Topics that were noted in terms of interest for this year included transcatheter valve, procedures, treatment of bicuspid aortic valve, and endocarditis. ECMO, lung cancer screening, and humanitarian programs, and as you can see from the program we selected abstracts and content specifically address these areas that members felt would be useful in terms of their CME.

So I would like to extend my congratulations to Drs. Dearani, Molena, Kilic, and Bott. I think the program has been fantastic. We look forward to your comments about this meeting and so I encourage you to fill in those spaces with your feedback about the meeting and your recommendations for next year. We look forward to putting together a great program for Orlando. Thank you.

DR. ACCOLA: Thank you, Scott.

Now comes the time which is a very solemn moment I think in the Southern Thoracic

because of what the Southern Thoracic is and what it stands for. Dr. John Hammon, this year was elevated to Historian Emeritus. And at this point I'd like to ask him to come to the podium and say a few words as well please. John, you can have as long as you want per person.

DR. HAMMON: Well good afternoon for all of you stewards who are braving all of the words and data for today. I have got just to say just one short thing about this whole process because for this year we had 13 deaths, which is a huge number for our particular group. I am going to go through this list. I've got 13 deaths and I've got... this is sitting around for the last several trying to trim it all down.

The first obituary today is Robert Angel, who passed away at age 82 at Waco, Texas. And he was born in 1936 in Big Spring, Texas and he then graduated from his high school, college, and then did all of his training in medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and then got his full cards under Mike DeBakey and Denton Cooley and Stanley Crawford.

He then worked with the Air Force and to his credit he was stationed in and earned a bronze star for meritorious service. Since that time he has had a very successful practice. He's a member of the STSA and he's a good guy. He was a good guy, excuse me.

The second person is someone I think most of you know. This is Hendrick Rick Barner from St. Louis. He was the Professor Emeritus at the St. Louis University School of Medicine and he died on December 31st, 2018. I'm not sure why we didn't catch him last year. He was and had spent more than 30 years as a cardiothoracic surgeon at St. Louis University. He was a pioneer in the field of cardiac surgery and one of the earliest proponents of the use of arterial grafts to bypass blocked arteries. Rick Barner was the first coronary surgeon I have ever seen, said his Chair, Keith Naunheim, Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at St. Louis University Medical Center, "But as impressive as his technical expertise was, I will remember him more for his intellect and remarkable generosity." He described Barner as

a leader as well as a master craftsman of surgery. He pioneered several technique changes for coronary artery bypass, all of which were revolutionary. That reason I would have to say he is one of the most honored members of the STSA and was President here so I'll give you Hendrick Rick Barner, and hope you can remember all of the stuff that I told you because he was a real man. I was proud to know him.

Next obituary is for Dr. Alfonso Chico Chiscano. I understand he's a good friend of some of the people in this group, up here at the head of the table. He was a native of Spain Canary Island and he attended medical school in Barcelona and then he came to the United States and did a general surgery residency at Wayne State in Michigan. He then got a clinical fellowship in cardiovascular surgery at the Texas Heart Institute working with Dr. Cooley. He worked steadfastly as a cultural ambassador connecting San Antonio with his native Canary Islands and the country of Spain. He worked tirelessly to build bridges between the Canary Islands and the United States. And I think he

should be thought of as being an American.

Next person is a person that just about everybody in our group knows...knew. He's still alive, but when he was alive and came to our meetings it made the meetings wild. His name is Bill Cook, William Cook from North Andover, Massachusetts where he practices general thoracic surgery. He was a career long member and served as President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association in 1992 after his wife's death, first wife, and then he married again and is known by his children from the second marriage as Grandpa Captain since his passion was sailing. He was a gourmand and natty dresser and preferred bowties. He excelled at singing and dancing and absolutely killing people who disagreed with him. For that reason I will give you Bill Cook. He was really something when he was coming to this meeting and I hope he comes again.

Next is Hugo Deaton. Dr. Deaton lives in Hickory, North Carolina where he's been in practice for 30 years and he is a superb surgeon, part of which I hope he learned when



he went to medical school at Duke. And he has been a very very good...he's been very very good for the mountains and for the Hickory area. He takes a lot of people from out of the mountains and he's just a very good surgeon. I'm really pleased. He got his good training at Columbia University and he did both his surgical residency in general and thoracic surgery at Duke University Medical Center in 1963. Unfortunately, he hasn't published much. He does a lot of general thoracic surgery. I think I'll write him a letter and ask him to maybe send in some abstracts.

Okay the next person is David Hubbell. He died January 11, 2018. He was a doctor in Petersburg, Florida from 1954 to 1985 and he had some interesting experiences in his life. When he was in medical school played a so called secret game in basketball because he played basketball at Duke. He participated in what was probably the first basketball game ever played in the South between two organized teams, with one organized being from an all-black college and the other team all-white. But

to his great credit he recognized what was going on and they had a second game in which they integrated and they played skins versus shirts. Have any of you all played basketball and played skins and shirts? Well it doesn't say who won. I suspect I know who it was.

Anyway, he has been very much admired here in Florida and he was also an expert on Mark Twain and wrote a couple of books on him. He was also President of the Surgeons of Florida Chapter.

Next person I have is Loyde H. Hudson from Fayetteville, Arkansas. He died at age 95, Sunday, August 26, 2018. He was raised on a farm in Bruno, Arkansas, wherever that is, and he was a very very prolific person. He was the first teenaged second lieutenant positioned for the assault on Japan in World War II. As he said, he decided to enter medical school because he said doctors stayed in the rear, rarely got killed, had warm food, clean clothes, seldom had lice, and usually had women around.

The next obituary is a partner of mine, Alan S. Hudspeth. S stands for Sherrill

and that's what everybody called him and that's what he called himself. He was the Professor Emeritus of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He died July 7th, 2018 of a stroke at age of close to 80. Anyway, he received his undergraduate degree at Wake Forest College and then did medical school at Bowman Gray School of Medicine and then did an internship of surgery at the University of California Hospitals San Francisco to his credit. He then returned to Wake Forest and he decided to complete training in general and thoracic surgery and he was under the training leadership of one of our Presidents here, Dr. Bob Cordell. He was a wonderful surgeon. He transferred his skill in clinical knowledge to several generations of young surgeons who trained in his section. So he also was a very generous man and gave money to allow Wake Forest University and its medical school to name the clinical wing of the post-operating cardiac unit in our hospital in his honor. He died of a stroke on July 7th, 2018.

Next person is Graydon Long, who died

March 31st, 2019, not long not far from now. He was a naval person and was a midshipman in the United States Navy and served as a physician in the U.S. Marine Corp. in Korea. So he then went to University of Michigan Medical School and did his cardiothoracic residency there. He then went to several different hospitals and ended up in Lexington, Kentucky.

Next person is Allan Macris who was born in Greece. Came to the United States to join his stepfather George, who's the founder of Macris Pharmacy in Buckhead, Florida. He stayed in Atlanta, Georgia after he did his training, mostly at Washington University in St. Louis. He then served two years as an Air Force as a captain. He had a big following in Atlanta, I understand from several of my Emory colleagues, and he passed away in March 2019.

The next person is John L. Ochsner. And assuming everybody in this room knows who he is. Well I was lucky enough to spend a lot of time with him at the Ochsner Foundation Hospital, which was started by his father, Alton Ochsner, in 1941. And thousands of

patients have been treated there since. So he I think should be known as one of the pioneers in the development of modern open heart surgery. He was charismatic, a well-known raconteur, and his friends and family affectionately called him the king of hearts.

Next person is also a friend and a teacher, Timothy Takaro, who was at the VA Hospital at Asheville, North Carolina, where all of the residents in cardiac surgery at Duke rotated. I had a great experience there for six months, believe it or not. And operated with him multiple times and he taught me so much because he was very very open and he really enjoyed training residents. He also did a lot of other things, like he spearheaded the VA Cooperative Study on Coronary Artery Surgery, and one of the first randomized controlled trials of surgery. So he unfortunately passed away recently and we are very very lucky to have had him on this Earth.

The last person on our list is Joseph Walls from Columbia, Missouri. He trained both in Columbia, Missouri and in Arkansas, and then

he went to the Columbia Military Academy and graduated, and from that time on he was in the Army for pretty good while in Germany and practiced in Kentucky. Apparently he was a very good surgeon and most of the people who I read who knew him liked him. I appreciate you all coming. I want you to know this is my last trip to the podium to do the necrology. I was wondering if Gus is here. Did you learn anything? Good, well I can leave then.

DR. ACCOLA: Dr. Hammon, Thank you. I'd like everyone to stand and we'll have a moment of silence for our passed members.

(Moment of silence).

DR. ACCOLA: Thank you.

As Dr. Hammon alluded to, Dr. Mavroudis will create and assume the position of historian. And again Dr. Hammon it's a privilege to have you up here with us as you take over your position of Emeritus Historian and keep an eye on Gus.

Alec Patterson, Dr. Patterson couldn't be here today, had to go back. He gave a report to the Council on *The Annals of Thoracic*

*Surgery*. There was nothing out of the ordinary, but we'll give abbreviated report in his place.

I went through the various slides and data from *The Annals*. There has been an increase in submissions from last year; 9% in original articles, 20% in review articles. These are self-explanatory. I'll just go through these just briefly pausing.

We've had a continued good relationship with *The Annals*, which we all expect and remains intact and it's always good to have Dr. Patterson with us in our Council meetings as well.

I'd like to call Dr. John Calhoon to the podium. Our senior representative of the Nominating Committee and Dr. Calhoon, thank you.

DR. CALHOON: Good evening or good afternoon everybody. I'm here the Nominating Committee, which represents myself as Chair; Dr. Ajay Carpenter will be Chair next year, Dr. Jones and Dr. Accola, and then next year will include Dr. Jacobs.

The Nominating Committee met and after

a fair amount of discussion we'd like to suggest the names of two people to become Councilors on the Councilors-at-Large on our Council, and they are Dr. Daniela Molena and Dr. James Gangemi. So that's names we'd like to put into nomination. Do you want to have nominations ceased and vote on them? Do we have any other nominations from the floor? Alright hearing none any one opposed? Alright congratulations to Dr. Molena. Dr. Gangemi is not able to be here.

(Applause).

Dr. CALHOON: The next position is that of Vice President/ President-Elect because the President is about to be Dr. Thourani, and we had a lot of discussion about this.

Nominating Committee wishes to...where are we at...and we've already talked about Dr. Mavroudis and Dr. Hammon, who did a beautiful job today. Dr. Hammon thank you very much for that service.

So for the position, the newly created position of Vice President/President-Elect, committee wants to place a nomination. And



interestingly, person who has an identical twin, knowing this explains a great deal about the imposter this person has sent to our meetings over the last few decades. It's very clear his twin has been here, sent in doubt so that he could go and goof off and screw of somewhere else. It counts for all of the insane and inane commentary that we've had to endure over the years.

This person was born in Ashland, Kentucky, where he left to go to college as a starting strong safety. Hard to believe I'm sure for Georgetown College. He became an academic all-American for four years and was an all-conference athlete. He went back to Kentucky and completed medical school at the University of Kentucky. Subsequently went to Georgetown to do his general surgery. He was then accepted into a CT fellowship at Mayo Clinic. Sorry Joe, Shanda, Mayo Clinic. He subsequent went back to Kentucky, this time as Chief of Thoracic Surgery at Louisville. Anecdotally he performed the first lung volume reduction surgery in Kentucky. At the time of

his recruitment back to Mayo, however, that tube still had...that patient still had chest pains and air leaks. He stayed five years at the Mayo where he notes that he was the best looking resident Mayo ever graduated. I'm sorry about that. He probably meant to include the faculty as well, Joe and Shanda, I'm sorry but... He then was recruited to Emory to become Chief of Thoracic Surgery. It's there that he made many of his marks. Most of them on patients. He did the first successful VATS lobectomy in Georgia while he was there apparently. He also performed the most redo pectuses in the U.S. Ever since this is self-reported data we have to wonder how many of those primary cases were his to begin with. For the last five years he's moved to WellStar, where he's continued to perform truly innovative and high quality thoracic surgery as he's done his entire career.

I think a couple of other things deserve important mention. One is he's had a better half whose stayed with him for thirty-three years, and congratulations on that, as

well as four kids.

(Applause).

DR. CALHOON: Lastly, if maybe our new historian and Dr. Cerfolio could bring our nominee Dr. Daniel Miller to the podium please.

(Applause).

DR. CALHOON: If you could just hold it right there for a moment. We got to vote on the guy. Are there any nominations from the floor? Any other objections? Alright. Any other nominations? Alright. Looks like you're in chief. Congratulations.

(Applause).

DR. MILLER: I said the best looking guy because cause cut it Cerfolio, didn't even mention that he was there at Mayo.

Ohh...speechless. This is...I wear my emotion on my sleeve and a lot of it comes out my mouth too. But the big thing is my first meeting was 1992, I presented at. Was supposed to be at St. Thomas Virgin Islands, but there was a hurricane that year and we couldn't go. So Mark Allen and I had to go to Panama City, Florida for the meeting. And I got, I won the

fishing competition for the smallest fish that year. Bill Cook, gave me, I have this little hook with my name on it still. Bill Cook was great, but this meeting means everything to me, this organization. This is the greatest honor I could achieve, and Joe I want to thank you. God I can't believe. Joe for your mentorship at Emory and your presidency. It really helped me to really love this organization. Thank you very much.

(Applause).

DR. MILLER: Wow. I try to be a hard ass every now and then. Thank you all very much.

(Applause).

DR. MILLER: That's my fat picture though.

DR. ACCOLA: And he's wearing a tie.

Obviously we all care about the Southern and everything. It's been discussed these past couple of days. It's evident what the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association means to all of us as individuals, but also all of us as a group of people. Thank you Dan and

congratulations.

(Applause).

DR. ACCOLA: I'd like to ask Dr. Jacobs to come up here and Dr. Thourani. And I think we have a little bit of a thing for you here. Turn it over to Jeff.

DR. JACOBS: First I'd like to acknowledge Kevin for his years of service, and as outgoing Council Chair Kevin was awesome to me and supported me through a tough year and is just one of the best people in the world I know so round of applause for Kevin.

(Applause).

DR. JACOBS: And now I'd like to thank the Southern for sticking by me this year. It means a lot. The Southern is a unique organization it's a very special place and thank all of you. It gives me great pleasure to, as of this moment, hand this gavel to Vinod Thourani and Vinod will now become the President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. He's a great surgeon, he's a great leader, he's a great friend, and he's a great man. I can't think of anybody better to be the

next President. Vinod, it gives me pleasure to give you this gavel and give you the podium.

(Applause).

DR. THOURANI: First of all thank you Jeff. We wanted to let you know, from not only just me as a personal friend, but from the entire association how much you're loved, how much you mean the world to us. And not only your friendship, but the way that you carried yourself is an absolute inspiration to all of us. You have set a bar for this association that is almost unachievable. And we will try tirelessly to try and achieve that, and we wanted to let you know what you mean to us and how much your perseverance and your professionalism is the embodiment of what the association is made of. Thank you so much, Jeff.

(Applause).

DR. THOURANI: This is by far the most that I can achieve in my professional career thus far. This is the ultimate. I remember the last time I was here I came off of the beach unshaven in shorts with a beer in my hand so

I'm a little better dressed this time. But I wanted to let you know that STSA staff and myself and our team will work tirelessly to everyone's in this association and what it embodies. We will work hard to bring you the value proposition that you deserve. We will work in this unique association, more so it is, and Joe know this as the upcoming president of the STS, that this, it holds a special memory to all of us. This association what we do and how we treat each other in a collegial fashion. We want to embody that as much as we can. For this we will work as our priority to do that. We've already started planning the Orlando meeting. We hope that all of you are there and please send us comments on how we can make this a better place for you.

Dan, now you're going to have two people from Atlanta people back to back. You're going to be the President and we look forward to not only Orlando for next year, but Atlanta the year after that. Thank you so much and enjoy the evening tonight.

(Applause).

DR. JACOBS: Now before we finish the last thing we need to do and I want to do is to acknowledge Beth, Laura, and the whole team that put all this together. I don't know where they are right now. There they are. These guys are awesome. Martin is awesome and thank them all and we'll see you guys at the dinner tonight. Thank you very much.

(The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm).