

STSA News

SUMMER 2021

Inside this issue:

- 2 Letter from the President
- 3 Welcome New Members
- 4 Recruit a Member
 - STSA Member-to-Member Interviews
 - Reminder to New Members
- 5 Upcoming Scholarship Opportunities
 - Program Committee Update
- 6 TSF STSA Resident Research Award
- 7 2019 Annual Meeting Award Recipients
 - Inspiration Award Nominations
 - Donate to the STS Brooks Scholarship Fund
- 8 Save the Date for Atlanta, GA
- 9 STSA Council Members
 - Robert M. Sade Ethics Lectureship
 - New Program With Leaders in Surgery
- 10 68th Annual Meeting Schedule
- 11 Postgraduate Program Outline
- 13 Photos from Marco Island, FL



Attend the STSA 68th Annual Meeting



Jeff Jacobs, MD passed the President's gavel to Vinod Thourani, MD, during the STSA 66th Annual Meeting in Marco Island, FL.



November 3-6, 2021
Atlanta, Georgia

Plan to reconnect in person with your STSA colleagues and friends!
[SEE PAGES 8-11 FOR DETAILS.](#)

Letter from the President



Vinod H. Thourani, MD

We all know it has been a challenging year but it does appear there is light at the end of the tunnel, and that light is the [STSA 68th Annual Meeting!](#) STSA is thrilled to host one of the first national in-person cardiothoracic surgery meetings in 2021. STSA

leadership made the difficult decision to cancel last year's meeting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; however, with a decrease in cases and an increase in vaccinations against the virus, the STSA meeting you know and love will be back Nov 3-6, 2021 at the Loews Atlanta Hotel in Georgia. Mark your calendars!

Although last year's meeting was cancelled, the work of STSA continued. STSA held its [first webinar](#) and virtual Business Meeting, and members approved important revisions to the Association's Bylaws. As part of the Bylaws updates, STSA's Council was restructured and a new Second Vice President position was created. I'd like to congratulate [Dr. Stephen Yang](#) on being elected to this position. I'd also like to welcome Pre-Candidate, Candidate, Associate and Active members that were approved for membership. On behalf of STSA's leadership, welcome to a wonderful organization. We look forward to your participation! See [page 3](#) for a full list of your new member colleagues.

Another new activity leadership has been working on this past year are STSA member-to-member interviews. These enlightening, entertaining and relevant interviews with cardiac, thoracic and congenital leaders in the STSA community provide insight into their pathway to success and their favorite moments at an STSA meeting. A link to each interview can be found on [page 4](#). Thank you to Drs. Kevin Accola, Jeff Jacobs, John Calhoun, Shanda Blackmon and David Jones for participating in the first of this series.

STSA leadership and staff has turned its full attention to planning the [68th Annual Meeting](#) in Atlanta. I'm especially excited to host this meeting because it is in my home city. Plan to attend, and while in town, take advantage of all the wonderful things Atlanta has to offer, including the world-class Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Stone Mountain, The World of Coca-Cola, ESPN Zone, CNN Headquarters, LEGOLAND, and Piedmont Park.

This year's schedule will feature notable abstracts, invited speakers and presentations, and scientific posters and videos. The meeting will begin on Wednesday evening with a Welcome Reception and the first Postgraduate Session featuring multiple videos addressing surgical techniques on, "How Do I Do It," and "Avoiding Pitfalls." Check in to the hotel, come as you are, and attend these relevant and valuable sessions with food and libations. Other exciting features are rapid-fire cardiac, thoracic and congenital abstract presentations, and a plenary session featuring talks on "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants." Be sure to look closely at the Advance Program for more information! A preliminary schedule can be

found on [page 10](#). STSA will continue to offer high-quality, informative education that you have come to expect. Highlights can be found on <https://stsa.org/68thannual/>. STSA staff is working to finalize details before registration opens this summer, but rest assured that we will be offering a variety of great social activities, including the President's Mixer, All Attendee Luncheon, the Residents Reception, Early Practitioners Luncheon, and the Annual Dinner Gala. The STSA 68th Annual Meeting is currently being planned in accordance with all federal, state, local and hotel guidelines.



Gorav Ailawadi, MD, and Todd Rosengart, MD, Co-Chairs of the Postgraduate Committee, and their team have assembled an outstanding program for Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. See [page 11](#) of this newsletter to review the preliminary Postgraduate Program speakers and topics. The STSA Program Committee, chaired by Ourania Preventza, MD, and Harold Burkhart, MD met virtually in May to finalize the scientific program. We can all look forward to a great lineup of highly relevant topics and speakers.

The Advance Program, meeting registration and hotel reservations will be available in the coming weeks, but please do save the date for our 68th Annual Meeting and make plans to book your hotel rooms. With a relevant and timely educational program and all the fun and camaraderie STSA is renowned for, it's a meeting you won't want to miss!

Vinod H. Thourani, MD

STSA Welcomes New Members

Congratulations and welcome to the following cardiothoracic surgeons, residents, interdisciplinary care providers, and medical students approved for STSA Membership during the Annual Business Meetings held November 8, 2019 and December 12, 2020

Active Members

Ghulam Abbas <i>Morgantown, WV</i>	Jeremiah Hayanga <i>Morgantown, WV</i>
Tarek Absi <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Eric Jeng <i>Gainesville, FL</i>
Jared Antevil <i>Washington, DC</i>	Mark Joseph <i>Roanoke, VA</i>
Ziv Beckerman <i>Austin, TX</i>	Clayton A. Kaiser <i>Nashville, TN</i>
Gautam Bhatia <i>Greenville, SC</i>	Hiroto Kitahara <i>Washington, DC</i>
Linda J. Bogar <i>Orlando, FL</i>	Gabriel Loor <i>Houston, TX</i>
Benjamin C. Degner <i>Greenville, NC</i>	Jesse Madden <i>Asheville, NC</i>
James M. Donahue <i>Birmingham, AL</i>	Kaushik Mandal <i>Hershey, PA</i>
William Douglas <i>Kansas City, MO</i>	Thomas L. Matthew <i>Bethesda, MD</i>
Awad El-Ashry <i>Meidian, MS</i>	Shari Meyerson <i>Lexington, KY</i>
Dennis M. Gilmore <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Siddharth Pahwa <i>Louisville, KY</i>
Lawrence E. Greiten <i>Little Rock, AR</i>	Hao Pan <i>Delray Beach, FL</i>
David G. Greenhouse <i>New Orleans, LA</i>	Vivek Patel <i>Tyler, TX</i>
Jinny S. Ha <i>Baltimore, MD</i>	Si Mai Pham <i>Jacksonville, FL</i>
Amy Hackmann <i>Dallas, TX</i>	Adam Protos <i>Jackson, MS</i>
Phillips B. Harrington <i>Tampa, FL</i>	Robert T. Ripley <i>Houston, TX</i>
Meredith Harrison <i>Bethlehem, PA</i>	Michael J. Roach <i>Charlotte, NC</i>



STSA President Dr. Vinod Thourani and Council Chair Dr. Jeff Jacobs welcome new members at the 2019 STSA Business Meeting

Mark E. Roeser <i>Charlottesville, VA</i>	Harma K. Turbendian <i>Jacksonville, FL</i>	Mary E. Huerter <i>UT Southwestern Medical Center</i>	Syed S. Razi <i>University of Miami</i>
David S. Schrupp <i>Bethesda, MD</i>	Robert M. Van Haren <i>Cincinnati, OH</i>	Danielle M. Jacks <i>Ochsner Clinic Foundation</i>	Brandi Braud Scully <i>Johns Hopkins Hospital</i>
Aleem Siddique <i>Omaha, NE</i>	Panayotis Vardas <i>Birmingham, AL</i>	Nils-Thomas McBride <i>Virginia Commonwealth University</i>	Paul J. Speicher <i>Duke University</i>
William B. Smith <i>Ocean Springs, MS</i>	Luis Velazco Davila <i>Oklahoma City, OK</i>	Connor P. McDonald <i>UT Health Science Center San Antonio</i>	John R. Spratt <i>University of Florida</i>
Philip Smith <i>Norfolk, VA</i>	William J. Wallen <i>Lexington, KY</i>	William G. McMaster, Jr. <i>Vanderbilt University</i>	Sasha Still <i>University of Alabama</i>
Robert A. Sorabella <i>Birmingham, AL</i>	I-wen Wang <i>Hollywood, FL</i>	Duy C. Nguyen <i>Texas Heart Institute/ Baylor College of Medicine</i>	Raymond J. Strobel <i>University of Virginia</i>
Elizabeth Stephens <i>Rochester, MN</i>	Adam R. Williams <i>Durham, NC</i>	Parth M. Patel <i>Emory University</i>	Melissa Taylor <i>University of Texas at Galveston</i>
Nicholas A. Stephens <i>Houston, TX</i>	Kenan W. Yount <i>Charlottesville, VA</i>	Nicholas H. Pope <i>University of Virginia</i>	Nakul Valsangkar <i>Emory University</i>
Ibrahim Sultan <i>Pittsburgh, PA</i>	Brittany Zwischenberger <i>Durham, NC</i>	William W. Qu <i>Emory University</i>	Fatima Wilder <i>Johns Hopkins University</i>
Henry F. Todd <i>Knoxville, TN</i>			Alex M. Wisniewski <i>University of Virginia</i>
			Jonathan R. Zurcher <i>Emory University</i>

Associate Members

Diane E. Alejo <i>Johns Hopkins Hospital</i>	Mary M. Hohenberg <i>St. Louis University</i>
Teresa M. Browning <i>University of Louisville</i>	Richard J. Moro <i>Advent Health Orlando</i>
Tamara S. Goda <i>Vidant Medical Center</i>	Laura G. White <i>Carillion Clinic</i>

Candidate Members

Ryan V. Abbaszadeh <i>University of Virginia</i>	Eric J. Charles <i>University of Virginia</i>
Brian P. Bateson <i>University of Louisville</i>	Nicholas S. Clarke <i>Johns Hopkins University</i>
Walker Blanding <i>Medical University of South Carolina</i>	Ankit Dhamija <i>West Virginia University</i>
Bradley M. Ceremuga <i>University of Louisville</i>	Peter S. Downey <i>Duke University</i>
Stephanie H. Chang <i>Washington University</i>	Carolyn A. Dubeau <i>UT Health Science Center San Antonio</i>

Pre-Candidate Members

Navid Ajabshir <i>Mount Sinai Medical Center of Florida</i>	Ansley B. Ricker <i>ECU Quillen College of Medicine</i>
Connor P. Callahan <i>Washington University</i>	Zachary W. Sollie <i>University of Alabama</i>
Haydee del Calvo <i>Houston Methodist Hospital</i>	Joseph C. Sweeney <i>University of Louisville</i>
Peter D. Drevets <i>Medical College of Georgia</i>	Rodrigo A. Zea Vera <i>Baylor College of Medicine</i>
Michael P. Rogers <i>University of South Florida</i>	

Help Recruit New STSA Members

The STSA Membership Committee, Chaired by James Gangemi, MD, would like your help in encouraging eligible cardiothoracic surgery team members to apply for membership.

In addition to the traditional criterion for membership eligibility – practicing or having previously practiced thoracic surgery for at least one year in the [Southern region](#) – all CT surgeons who trained in general surgery or thoracic surgery in any Southern training program are eligible for membership, as are surgeons who participated in a research program in the Southern region during their training. STSA provides a wonderful opportunity to all of these surgeons to not only take advantage of the

excellent educational opportunities of the Annual Meeting, but also to see old friends and fellow trainees on a regular basis.

Furthermore, STSA offers and encourages membership to interdisciplinary care providers (in the Associate Member category) and residents from institutions in the Southern region.

Please encourage all of your eligible friends, associates, and mentees to apply for the appropriate category of membership. They will be welcomed. STSA staff and members of the Membership Committee are eager to help; please contact STSA Headquarters at stsa@stsa.org or (312) 202-5892 for assistance.

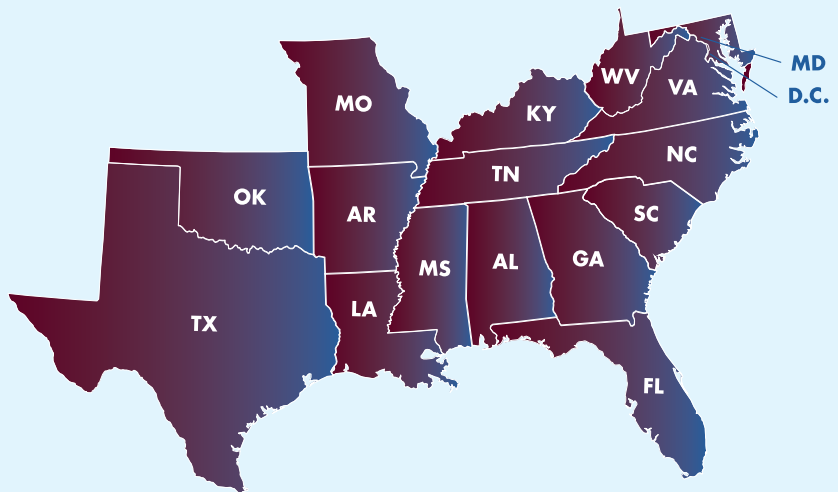
The deadline for new member applications is September 1, 2021.

Learn more about STSA Membership categories and download an application at <https://stsa.org/membership/>.

**ACTIVE
MEMBERSHIP***

**ASSOCIATE
MEMBERSHIP**

**CANDIDATE
MEMBERSHIP**



*Applicants who are not yet ABTS-certified by September 1 are still eligible to apply for membership. [Click here](#) to learn more.

STSA Member-to-Member Interviews

STSA knows the impact and importance of leadership, mentorship, and friendship among its members. STSA is pleased to present the first in a series of interviews of STSA members by STSA members, including cardiac, thoracic and congenital surgeons. STSA members include leaders in the field of cardiothoracic

surgery, and this issue's interviewees are no exception. Visit the link below to enjoy informative and entertaining interviews with your fellow members, Drs. Kevin Accola, John Calhoon and David Jones. These interviews will be posted on the [STSA website](#).



CARDIAC:
Dr. Kevin Accola/
Dr. Vinod Thourani



CONGENITAL:
Dr. John Calhoon/
Dr. Jeff Jacobs



THORACIC:
Dr. David Jones/
Dr. Shanda Blackmon

A REMINDER TO NEW STSA MEMBERS!

Active status will become effective, and a certificate of membership presented, when the elected applicant attends one of the next four STSA Annual Meetings following their initial election to membership. New members are encouraged and expected to attend the STSA Business Meeting to be held at 4:00 p.m. ET on Friday, Nov. 5 at the Loews Atlanta Hotel.



Top: 2019 WTS Carpenter Scholar and general surgery resident, Norma Farrow, MD (left) with former STSA and WTS President Andrea J. Carpenter, MD (right), for whom the award is named, at the STSA 66th Annual Meeting Residents Reception.

Above: (l to r) STSA Brooks Scholars Eric Etchill, MD, Gregory Leya, MD, Selena Li, Phillip Mackie, Samantha Halpern, and Corbin Frye, MD), and WTS Carpenter Scholar, Norma Farrow, MD (center left) at the STSA 66th Annual Meeting Residents Reception.

Medical Student and Resident Scholarship Opportunities Now Being Accepted

STSA is pleased to announce that the **STSA James W. Brooks Scholarship** will include both 2020 and 2021 recipients. Although last year's Annual Meeting was cancelled, STSA will still offer eligible 2020 recipients the opportunity to attend this year's meeting, along with newly awarded scholars for 2021. These medical students and residents have shown an interest in or commitment to a career in cardiothoracic surgery. STSA greatly appreciates the Brooks family for its ongoing support of these important awards. You may read more about the Brooks Scholarship [here](#).

Medical students interested in pursuing a career in cardiothoracic surgery are encouraged to apply for the **STSA James W. Brooks Medical Student Scholarship**. Eligible applicants include 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year medical students who demonstrate a commitment to cardiothoracic surgery. Interested applicants must complete an online application and submit a current version of their CV, a letter of nomination from an STSA member, and a letter of support from their medical school dean confirming their permission for the applicant to travel to Atlanta, GA, November 3-6, 2021.

General surgery residents committed to cardiothoracic surgery are eligible to apply for the **STSA James W. Brooks Resident Scholarship**. Interested applicants must complete an online application and submit a current version of their CV, a letter of nomination from an STSA member, and a letter of support from their Program Director confirming their permission for the applicant to travel to Atlanta, GA, November 3-6, 2021.

Both Brooks Scholarships include airfare to attend the STSA 68th Annual Meeting November 3-6, 2021 and a three-night stay at the Loews Atlanta Hotel. Scholarship recipients will also receive tickets to attend the President's Mixer and Dinner Gala. An STSA member mentor will be paired with each scholar to assist in familiarizing them to the STSA Annual Meeting and facilitate introductions.

Applications for the 2021 Brooks Scholarships are now being accepted. Visit <https://stsa.org/awards/> to learn more and access the online applications. **The application deadline for both scholarships is July 26, 2021.**

STSA Program Committee Update

The STSA Program Committee met virtually on May 14 to review abstracts and plan the educational program for the 68th Annual Meeting at the Loews Atlanta Hotel. Many excellent submissions were received and an outstanding and fresh program has been created under the leadership of President, Vinod Thourani, MD and Program Committee Co-Chairs, Harold Burkhart, MD and Ourania Preventza, MD. Visit <https://stsa.org/> in the coming weeks to review the educational program. Registration and housing will be available this summer.

E-posters and scientific videos are back! STSA will offer a digital library of the abstracts selected to be displayed at the annual meeting in the form of a scientific poster or video. Screens will be available on Thursday and Friday in a large foyer area of the meeting space, and will be separated for safe, social distancing while viewing. Although CME will not be offered in conjunction with these abstracts, it's an opportunity to engage with fellow surgeons in an informal, safe, and social environment.



The 2021 STSA Program Committee met virtually to review abstract submissions in preparation for the STSA 68th Annual Meeting.

TSF STSA Resident Research Award

STSA, in partnership with The Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF) offered the [TSF STSA Resident Research Award](#), which provides operational support of original research efforts by general surgery or cardiothoracic surgery residents who have not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training.



The 2020 TSF STSA Resident Research Award recipient is Renee M. Cholyway, MD, for her research project titled, "Mitochondrial Transfusion to Recover Function in Donor After Circulatory Death Hearts." Dr. Cholyway is a general surgery resident at Virginia Commonwealth University.

"Funding from this award supports important translational research on protective and therapeutic measures to improve the recovery and function of donor hearts after circulatory death. This award also supports my career as a surgeon scientist, focused on improving the lives of my patients from the bench to the operating room."

Renee M. Cholyway, MD



The 2021 TSF STSA Resident Research Award is Evan P. Rotar, MD, for his research project titled, "Evaluation of the Rehabilitative Advantage of IVLP in ARDS Using a Porcine Aspiration-Induced Lung Injury Model." Dr. Rotar is a cardiothoracic surgery resident at the University of Virginia.

"It is a tremendous honor to have been selected to receive the STSA Resident Research Award. This is a true testament to the dedication and hard work of our entire laboratory, and I am humbled and excited to represent our team. Under the mentorship of Dr. Kron, Dr. Roeser, and Dr. Laubach, we will investigate the application of in-vivo lung perfusion and its rehabilitative potential to a novel model of ARDS, continuing the work championed by many who came before me. I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to sharing our findings soon."

Evan P. Rotar, MD

Applications for the 2022 award year will open on July 1, 2021. Learn more and access an application at <https://thoracicsurgeryfoundation.org/tsfstsa/>

General surgery or cardiothoracic surgery residents who currently practice or are enrolled at a program in the Southern region are eligible to apply.

You can support TSF by making a donation at www.thoracicsurgeryfoundation.org/donate/.

2019 STSA Annual Meeting Award Recipients



Dr. Robert Cerfolio, the 2019 recipient of the Mavroudis-Urschel Award

The **Osler Abbott Award**, given annually to a member of the Association who excels in the art of discussionmanship, was presented to **Carl Backer, MD** from UK HealthCare Kentucky Children's Hospital, at the 66th Annual Meeting. This award signifies the importance of open, frank, and candid discussion with a healthy give-and-take among members, resulting in the enhanced camaraderie and esprit-de-corps that have traditionally characterized STSA.

The **Inspiration Award** was established in 2007 to recognize the important contribution of mentorship to the specialty and the organization, and to encourage upcoming generations of CT surgeons by helping to cultivate mentors worthy of emulation. **Charles Fraser, MD** and **Francis Robicsek, MD** both received the 2019 Inspiration Award.

Robert Cerfolio, MD, received the 2019 **Mavroudis-Urschel Award** in recognition of his contributions to the STSA scientific program and his unique social spirit and camaraderie for which STSA is famous.

Jeff Jacobs, MD received the 2019 **Tiki Award**. This award is given to the person who presents

the most memorable and noteworthy slide at the Annual Meeting.

The 2019 **President's Award papers** were selected by STSA President Jeff Jacobs, MD in consultation with the Council on the basis of originality, content, and presentation.

Eric Charles, MD of the University of Virginia, received the 2019 **Clifford Van Meter President's Award** for the best adult cardiac surgery scientific presentation at the Annual Meeting, titled, "*Patient-Reported Outcomes at One Year Define Successful Cardiac Surgery.*"

Zhizhou Jason Yang, MD of Washington University School of Medicine, received the 2019 **Carolyn Reed President's Award** for the best thoracic scientific presentation at the Annual Meeting, titled, "*Nighttime Operation is Associated With Adverse Outcomes After Lung Transplantation.*"

Tom Nilsen Hoel, MD of Oslo University Hospital, received the 2019 **George Daicoff President's Award** for the best congenital heart surgery scientific presentation at the Annual Meeting, titled, "*Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome – Twenty Years Follow-up in Norway.*"

The **Hawley H. Seiler, MD Residents Award** is presented each year to an outstanding cardiothoracic resident whose presentation is deemed superior to all others. **Navin Vigneshwar, MD** of the University of Colorado, received the 2019 Hawley Seiler Resident's Award for his paper and presentation titled, "*Clinical Predictors of In-Hospital Mortality in Venoarterial Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation in Patients With Refractory Cardiogenic Shock*"

Nominations For The STSA Inspiration Award This Summer

To acknowledge the crucial importance of mentorship in developing CT surgeons and to recognize and positively reinforce STSA members who have excelled in their mentorship roles, STSA established its Inspiration Award in 2007. The Inspiration Award is given to the STSA member who has demonstrated exceptional efforts in motivating, inspiring, and cultivating the clinical and research talents of medical students, residents, and/or early career CT surgeons.

PAST INSPIRATION AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- 2019** Charles Fraser & Francis Robicsek
- 2018** Walter Wolfe & Gordon F. Murray
- 2017** Jennifer S. Lawton & Richard Lee
- 2016** Clinton E. Baisden
- 2015** L. Henry Edmunds
- 2014** Curtis G. Tribble
- 2013** James Robert Headrick
- 2012** Harvey W. Bender, Jr., Frederick L. Grover, & Ara A. Vaporciyan
- 2010** Kamal A. Mansour & Francis Robicsek
- 2009** Irving L. Kron
- 2007** Robert J. Cerfolio & Hooshang Bolooki

If you would like to recognize an STSA member who has impacted your career through mentorship, nominate them for the 2021 Inspiration Award. Due to the cancellation of the STSA 67th Annual Meeting, an Inspiration Award was not selected in 2020. Submit your nomination in writing by September 1. Nomination letters should outline the specific merits of the nominee and their positive influences on their mentee(s). Send nominations to Vinod Thourani, by e-mail to stsa@stsa.org and enter, "2021 Inspiration Award" in the subject line.

For additional information regarding all STSA awards, visit www.stsa.org/awards/.

ONLINE BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS ACCEPTED

STSA accepts online donations for the James W. Brooks Medical Student and Resident Scholarship fund. The Brooks Scholarship was founded in 2010 to recognize and honor STSA Past President, Dr. Jim Brooks. Dr. Brooks was a lifetime supporter of the STSA, and he was a great mentor to countless residents and students during his career at the Medical College of Virginia.

Brooks Scholarships are given annually to 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year medical students and general surgery residents in the STSA region who are interested in cardiothoracic surgery. Scholarship recipients receive funding to attend the STSA Annual Meeting and benefit from the guidance of STSA Members.

[Click here](#) to view a testimonial by Dr. Caitlin Harrington Baksh, who was awarded a Brooks Scholarship as a medical student. Dr. Harrington Baksh notes the scholarship's benefits and showcases her invaluable experience attending the STSA Annual Meeting.

- Make a Brooks Scholarship donation [online](#).
- [Download](#) a Brooks Scholarship pledge form.

Learn more about the Brooks Scholarship at <https://stsa.org/james-w-brooks-scholarship/>.

Save the Date for Atlanta, Georgia!

Attend the STSA 68th Annual Meeting and enjoy the beautiful Loews Atlanta Hotel



STSA 68th

ANNUAL MEETING

Loews Atlanta Hotel | Atlanta, GA
November 3-6, 2021



STSA is thrilled to be among the first cardiothoracic surgery organizations to offer an in-person meeting in 2021. This meeting is the perfect opportunity to reconnect with fellow STSA members you haven't seen outside of a computer screen in quite some time. Put away the laptop, dust off your suits and dresses, and get ready to enjoy the company of your STSA friends and colleagues in person.

The STSA 68th Annual Meeting is currently being planned in accordance with all federal, state, local and hotel guidelines. Meeting attendee

safety is a top concern and the host hotel offers plenty of space for social distancing. Plus, STSA plans to hold several social events on the hotel's beautiful outdoor terrace overlooking Midtown Atlanta. STSA will provide regular updates as guidelines change, and attendees can be assured that all steps will be taken to offer a wonderful experience in a safe environment.

The STSA 68th Annual Meeting will be held November 3-6, 2021 at the [Loews Atlanta Hotel](#), in the heart of Midtown Atlanta. The 68th Annual Meeting educational program will be designed by the STSA Postgraduate and Program Committees to meet your educational needs.

The Loews Atlanta Hotel is an ideal city site for attendees, and STSA leadership is confident this urban location will thrill meeting attendees. Situated in invigorating Midtown Atlanta, the Loews Atlanta Hotel is a short ride from the

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The hotel provides the perfect blend of modern design and southern hospitality. The chic hotel offers stunning guest accommodations, an award-winning spa, fitness classes, and top notch service STSA members have come to expect. [Click here](#) to view all the fun things there are to do in Atlanta! You can also save big with these city discounts on Atlanta attractions:

- [City Pass: Bundled/discounted access to five area attractions](#)
- [Savings in the City: A la carte discounted attractions/tours/dining/etc.](#)

The Advance Program, registration, and housing information will be available at <https://stsa.org/> this summer. Mark your calendar for November 3-6, 2021 and plan to join us in Atlanta!

Robert M. Sade Ethics Lectureship

Smoking and the Bier: Refusing to Operate If the Patient Keeps Smoking



Surgeons participating in the 2021 Robert M. Sade Ethics Lectureship will debate the question of what to do with a patient who started smoking again

after lung failure and a lung transplant and now requires a second transplant. The speakers will argue for and against reoperating on this patient, thus exploring all decision-making considerations for such patients.

New Program Offers Glimpses of Surgical Greatness

This year will feature presentations from four leaders in cardiothoracic surgery. Richard Prager, MD, will present the Kent Trinkle Lecture. Joseph Bavaria, MD and Michael Mack, MD will interview each other for the new "Legend on Legend" presentation, and Billy Cohn, MD will present, "Pathways in Innovation." Join us for these unique sessions the mornings of Friday, Nov. 5 and Saturday, Nov. 6.

STSA Leaders Look Forward to Hosting In-Person Annual Meeting

In 2020 STSA leadership made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person STSA 67th Annual Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They are now busy planning one of the first in-person cardiothoracic surgery meetings in 2021 and look forward to hosting their friends and colleagues once again, November 3-6 at the Loews Atlanta Hotel in Atlanta, GA.



PAST COUNCIL CHAIR
Kevin Accola, MD



CME DIRECTOR
Scott LeMaire, MD



**COUNCIL CHAIR/
IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT**
Jeffrey Jacobs, MD



HISTORIAN
Constantine "Gus"
Mavroudis, MD



PRESIDENT
Vinod Thourani, MD



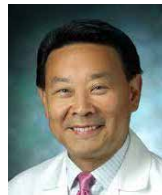
COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
T. Brett Reece, MD



**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/
PRESIDENT-ELECT**
Daniel Miller, MD



COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
James Gangemi, MD



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Stephen Yang, MD



COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
Daniela Molena, MD



SECRETARY/TREASURER
Shanda Blackmon, MD

STSA membership approved Bylaws changes in 2020, which included a restructuring of the STSA Council and volunteer leadership terms. [View the full list of STSA Leaders.](#)



We look forward to seeing you at the STSA 68th Annual Meeting

68th Annual Meeting Program Outline Schedule of Events (Eastern Time)

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons and The Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons designates this live activity for a maximum of 19.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

- 2:30 pm – 7:00 pm Registration
- 4:45 pm – 5:30 pm Meeting Kick-Off / Postgraduate Welcome Reception
- 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm *How I Do It and Avoiding Pitfalls* – Postgraduate Session 1
Simultaneous Subspecialty Breakouts: Cardiac, Thoracic, and Congenital

Thursday, November 4, 2021

- 6:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration
- 6:30 am – 5:00 pm Scientific Posters & Videos on Display
- 6:30 am Continental Breakfast
- 7:00 am – 7:50 am Basic Science Forum
- 7:00 am – 7:50 am Robert M. Sade Ethics Lectureship
Smoking and the Bier: Refusing to Operate If the Patient Keeps Smoking
- 8:00 am – 10:15 am First Scientific Session
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am Harold Urschel History Lectureship
George Ronald Daicoff, Sr., M.D. (November 10, 1930 - February 5, 2020): A Pioneering Surgeon and Humanitarian of The Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA)
Jeffrey Jacobs, MD
- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 10:30 am – 11:00 am Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters & Videos
- 11:00 am – 12:30 pm General Session
- 11:00 am – 11:20 am TSF/STSA Resident Research Award Recipients Presentation
- 11:20 am – 11:50 am President's Invited Lecturer

- 11:50 am – 12:30 pm Presidential Address
Vinod Thourani, MD
- 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm All Attendee Luncheon
- 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters & Videos
Dessert in the Exhibit Hall
- 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Second Scientific Session
Simultaneous Subspecialty Breakouts: Aortic Valve, COVID, and Hot Topics in General Thoracic Surgery
- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters & Videos
Coffee Break in Exhibit Hall
- 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm Third Scientific Session
- 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Resident's Reception
- 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm President's Mixer

Friday, November 5, 2021

- 6:30 am – 4:45 pm Registration
- 6:30 am – 5:00 pm Scientific Posters & Videos on Display
- 6:30 am Continental Breakfast
- 7:00 am – 8:30 am Fourth Scientific Session A
Simultaneous Subspecialty Breakouts: Adult Cardiac: Mitral Valve, Thoracic: Lung/Chest Wall, and Congenital
- 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 8:30 am – 9:00 am Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters & Videos
- 9:00 am – 10:00 am Fourth Scientific Session B – Rapid Fire Abstract Presentations
Simultaneous Subspecialty Breakouts: Cardiac, Thoracic, and Congenital
- 10:00 am – 10:30 am Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters & Videos
- 10:30 am – 12:00 pm General Session: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants
- 10:30 am – 10:50 am Kent Trinkle Lectureship
Richard Prager, MD
- 10:50 am – 11:30 am The Resilience Bank Account: Skills for Optimal Performance?
Mike Maddaus, MD
- 11:30 am – 12:00 pm Pathways in Innovation
Billy Cohn, MD
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch on Own / Early Practitioners Luncheon
- 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters & Videos
- 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Fourth Scientific Session C
Simultaneous Subspecialty Breakouts: Coronary Artery Disease, Esophagus Outcomes, Congenital, Congestive Heart Failure and Aorta
- 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Break/ Visit Exhibits/ Scientific Posters
- 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Fifth Scientific Session
- 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm STSA Business Meeting
- 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm Dinner Gala

Saturday, November 6, 2021

- 7:30 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Postgraduate Session 2
- 8:00 am – 9:30 am Hot Controversies in Cardiothoracic Surgery
Simultaneous Subspecialty Breakouts: Cardiac, Thoracic and Congenital
- 9:30 am – 10:00 am Break
- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Postgraduate General Session

*Program subject to change.

68th Annual Meeting Postgraduate Program Outline

The Postgraduate Committee has worked hard to put together an innovative and exciting program that will include several thought-provoking sessions. The event will kick off with a Welcome Reception from 4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 3. Join fellow meeting attendees for networking and hors d'oeuvres. The first Postgraduate Session will follow immediately from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and will feature cardiac, thoracic, and congenital video case presentations on the important topic, “How I Do It and Avoiding Pitfalls.”

The second session will be held on Saturday, November 6 from 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. and will feature cardiac, thoracic and congenital breakout sessions on “Hot Controversies” from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., followed by a general session for all attendees from 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. to conclude the STSA 68th Annual Meeting.

Gorav Ailawadi, MD
Todd Rosengart, MD
2021 Postgraduate Committee Co-Chairs

STSA 68th Annual Meeting Postgraduate Program Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021 & Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
Postgraduate Program Welcome Reception
 4:45 pm - 5:30 pm - Open to Industry Sponsorship

How I Do It and Avoiding Pitfalls Video Case Presentation Breakout Session 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Cardiac Surgery Video Breakout

Moderators: Gorav Ailawadi, MD and Todd Rosengart, MD

Topics	Speakers
Aortic Valve Annular Enlargement and Percutaneous Subclavian TAVR	Wilson Szeto, MD and Yoshi Kaneko, MD
Minimally Invasive CABG and All-Arterial CABG	Marc Ruel, MD and Joseph Sabik, MD
P2 Resection With Cleft Closures and Neochord Repair of the Barlow's Valve	Vinay Badhwar, MD and Marc Gillinov, MD
Bentall Operation and Ascending Aortic Dissection	Edward Chen, MD and Brad Taylor, MD
Bilateral Maze With LAA Closure and Convergent Procedure With LAA closure	Marc Gerdisch, MD and Faraz Kerendi, MD

Thoracic Surgery Video Breakout

Moderators: Shanda Blackmon, MD, Lisa Brown, MD and Mark Block, MD

Topics	Speakers
Diaphragm Plication	
Patient Selection/Potential Postoperative Pitfalls	Richard Freeman, MD
How I Do It: MIS Thoracic Approach	TBD
How I Do It: MIS Abdominal Approach	Erin Gillaspie, MD
Panel Debate/ Discussion on Approach	ALL - Panel

Surgical Management of GERD and Hiatal Hernia

Linx Anti-Reflux Procedure: Indications and Technical Pearls	Brian Louie, MD
Essential Considerations in Planning HH Repair (Video of Collis Approach)	Alex Farivar, MD
Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Hiatal Hernia Repair	Inderpal Sarkaria, MD
How I Do It: Mesh, Relaxing Incisions, Short Esophagus	Steve DeMeester, MD
Open Discussion	ALL - Panel

How I Managed the Most Challenging Complication of My Career

Post-Pneumonectomy BPF	Elizabeth David, MD
Unique Problems During Esophagectomy	Wayne Hofstetter, MD
Airway Injury During Either Lung or Esophageal Resection	Min Kim, MD
Open Discussion	ALL - Panel

68th Annual Meeting Postgraduate Program Outline, continued

STSA 68th Annual Meeting Postgraduate Program Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021 & Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021

Congenital Surgery Video Breakout

Moderators: Jim O'Brien, Jennifer Nelson & Jeff Jacobs

Topics	Speakers
Simplified Sinus of Valsalva Aneurysm with Associated Doubly-Committed Ventricular Septal Defect Repair	Alexander Merriman, MD
Konno Procedure for Tunnel Subaortic Stenosis	Joseph Dearani, MD
Patent Ductus Arteriosus Exclusion Technique Using Thoracic Endovascular Aortic Repair	Kristen Freeman, MD
Two Stage Repair of Adult Vascular Ring: Right Aortic Arch and Aberrant Left Subclavian Artery	Elizabeth Stephens, MD
Repair of Bicuspid Pulmonary Valve Insufficiency and Neo-Root Aneurysm late after Arterial Switch Procedure	John Kupferschmid, MD
Modified Re-implantation Technique for Anomalous Origin of Right Coronary Artery from Left Sinus with Inter-arterial Course and Short Intramural Course	Samantha Xu, MD

Saturday, November 6, 2021

Postgraduate Breakout Sessions - 8:00 am - 9:30 am

HOT CONTROVERSIES IN CARDIAC SURGERY BREAKOUT 8:00 am - 9:30 am

HOT CONTROVERSIES IN THORACIC SURGERY BREAKOUT 8:00 am - 9:30 am

HOT CONTROVERSIES IN CONGENITAL SURGERY BREAKOUT 8:00 am - 9:30 am

BREAK - 9:30 am - 10:00 am

Saturday, November 6, 2021

Postgraduate Breakout Sessions - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Topics	Speakers
Legend on Legend Interview	Joseph Bavaria, MD and Michael Mack, MD
Q&A	
Changing The Way Residents are Trained: Preparing for the Future	David Fullerton, MD
Q&A	
Update on the Changes for the STS Database and Using the Database to Further Enhance Your Practice	Felix Fernandez, MD
Q&A	
Practical Lessons in Leadership	Sean Grondin, MD
Q&A	

END OF SESSION / STSA 68TH ANNUAL MEETING CONCLUDES 12:00 pm

STSA 66th Annual Meeting, Marco Island, FL, Nov. 6-9, 2019



STSA gratefully acknowledges the following companies for their support of the STSA 66th Annual Meeting, held November 6-9, 2019 in Marco Island, FL.

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2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not yet paid your 2021 membership dues, be sure to [log in and pay your dues online today!](#) For membership assistance contact STSA staff at (312) 202-5892.



The Official Newsletter of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association

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be referred to STSA at stsa@stsa.org.

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STSA Future Meetings

November 3-6, 2021

Loews Atlanta Hotel
Atlanta, GA

November 9-12, 2022

Harbor Beach Marriott Resort & Spa
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

November 2-5, 2023

Loews Sapphire Falls Resort
Orlando, FL

Visit <https://stsa.org/> for additional information.