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Southern Thoracic Surgical Association
68th Annual Meeting
Atlanta, GA
Business Meeting
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DR. THOURANI: First of all, I'd like to welcome the past presidents of the Southern Thoracic. And I'd like to ask those that we present to stand to be recognized and we'll save the apologize till the very end.

Kevin Accola, John Calhoon, Andrea Carpenter, she's already standing. Joseph Coselli, Jeff Jacobs, Gus Mavroudis, Joseph Miller, Keith Naunheim, and Robert Sade. Congratulations.

(Applause)

DR. THOURANI: Also I'd like to acknowledge our council members. And also like them to stand as their names are read and hold their apologize till the end.

The Past Council Chair is Kevin Accola, the Council Chair, Jeffrey Jacobs. Myself as the President. The First Vice President/President-Elect Dan Miller. The Second Vice President, Stephen Yang. The Secretary/Treasurer, Shanda Blackmon. The Director of CDE, Scott LeMaire.

The Historian Gus Mavroudis and Councilor's Brett Reece, James Gangemi, and Daniela Molena. (Applause)

DR. THOURANI: The *Annals* Editor Dr. Patterson is not here today.

There is a special thanks to our outgoing leaders, Dr. Brett Reece, who's not here today. Dr. Alec Patterson as the *Annals* Editor, Dr. Dan Miller as the First Vice President. He is the Firest Vice President and Steven Hang is a Representative to the American College of Surgeons. Thank you very much.

(Applause)

DR. THOURANI: I'd like to invite Dr. Yang and Dr. Miller to the podium to receive their awards.

Ya, come on up.

Both at the same time like this.

Ok, and Dr. Blackman. Can you come to present the Secretary/Treasury report.

DR. BLACKMAN: Thank you Dr. Thourani. It's been a wonderful two years to get to serve with you on this endeavor during COVID and I'm so excited this meeting has been such a success.

Advance? The green button? There are too many options up here.

So I'll give the report of the Secretary and the Treasurer.

My first action is we approve the minutes of the annual business meeting. These minutes are available to you on www.stsa.org. They've been published so I need someone in the audience to please call for a motion to accept the minutes of the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

Second? Discussion?

All those in favor?

Motion passes.

As far as our membership category. As of, September of 2021, we have a total of 1,160 members. 682 active, 370 senior members, 71 candidate members, 14 pre-candidate members, 15 associate members, and 8 honorary members. We had 29 new 2021 applicants. I think because the board's being somewhat deferred. There was a delay in many applications. So I anticipate this will go up in the years coming and 18 candidate members.

When we look at our STSA membership broken down by groups we have 59% active members, 32% senior, 6% candidate, 1% pre-candidate, associate, and honorary members.

So I'll now give the report that is the Finance Committee that's lead by Mark Slaughter. Other

members include Dr. Accola, Dr. Husain, Jeff Jacobs, Dr. Miller, Dr. Seenu Reddy, Dr. Sundt, Dr. Thourani, and Dr. Yang.

From this past year, few years, STSA made a decision to go to a more investment. Aggressive investment portfolio. Changing the way we were doing some of our investments and if you look at our financial history spanning 2015 to 2020. It's important to note that our operating expenses for 2020 were reduced in half to compensate for reduced operating income due to COVID-19.

Our 2020 assets from the audited financial statements are available for review. For 2020, this totals \$2.8 million which would allow us to go for well over a year if no income was accruing, signaling the sign of a healthy association financially. You can see over the years, that financial statement is detailed and our.

In the past few years, it addition to taking a more aggressive financial portfolio. You can see in terms of this, it's paid off and we've recently seen a better return on our investment with a portfolio of \$2.4 million.

In 2019 and 2020 there was an overall net income loss but for 2021 budget we expect it to be positive once again. Owing to a very successful meeting this year that will no doubt help with finances. We will no longer be depending as we did on as we did in these earlier years on member dues alone. Also having financial contribution from the support of industry for the meeting. Helping as well.

So, I would now like to recognize any of the new members that might be in the room. If you have become a member of STSA within the past two years. Since we didn't have a meeting last year. I would like to recognized you as well. So, if you have become a member or if you are becoming a member tonight. Please stand up and be recognized.

One.

Two.

(Applause)

DR. BLACKMON: Congratulations. Really. The new members will receive a certificate in the mail after the meeting. And they're asked to come forward at the end of the business meeting to have photo taken.

So please meet in the back of the room and

Martin will come to take your photograph.

DR. THOURANI: Front of the room.

DR. BLACKMON: In the front of the room to take your photograph.

That concludes my report. Thank you. President Thourani.

DR. THOURANI: Thank you so much, Shanda. I'd like to invite Jeff Jacobs, our Council Chair to invite the council committees to come forward.

DR. JACOBS: So, first of all I'd like to congratulate Dr. Thourani on a most excellent meeting and for two years of tremendous leadership of Southern Thoracic.

(Applause)

DR. JACOBS: For the record, Dr. Thourani is the only person to be President of Southern Thoracic for two years, he's like our Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It's impressive. With that, we're going to call up each of the committee chairs to present their reports.

I'd like to ask that each committee chair limit themselves to between one and two minutes and briefly summarize your excellent activities. First up is Ourania Dr. Ourania Preventza who for two years now has chaired our

Program Committee. Along with Harold Burkhart who can not be here because of COVID. Ourania has been just awesome in leading this and you have the floor.

DR. PREVENTZA: Thank you Jeff and I would like to thank all of you for giving me the privilege to be on the Program Committee Chair. Harold is not here today because of the COIVD restrictions from his institution. So, umm. We had a wonderful program this year. This would not have been possible if we did not have a great and wonderful program committee.

The members of the program committee have been Kevin Accola, Vinay Badhwar, Shanda Blackmon, Jeff Jacobs, Scott LeMaire, Dan Miller, Jennifer Nelson, Tom Nguyen, James Louis, Vinod Thourani, and Stephen Yang. And also we've been very fortunate to have more than 70 abstract reviewers.

And you can see the names here.

We had the total number of abstracts at 253. Oral 70, video 34, and we had one for history. Poster and oral 157 and two e-posters. By category we had to 131 adult cardiac, general thoracic 84, congenital 35, 21 transplant. We can see we have increased the

surgical education, 14. Five on the patient safety. One intraoperative problem solving and one simulation and team-based learning.

And again, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to be the Program Committee Chair. Thank you.

DR. JACOBS: And thank you for doing just a tremendous job.

(Applause)

DR. JACOBS: Next we'll call up Dr. Gorav Ailawadi who's going to present the report of the postgraduate committee.

DR. AILAWADI: So, thank you Ourania and Jeff. And once again, congrats on an outstanding meeting. Unfortunately Todd could not join due to COVID restrictions. I'll be very brief. The postgrad committee had our first session on Wednesday and the second session will be tomorrow.

The first session was split up into the three subsects within CT surgery. Very video based, some heathy discussion. I've gotten a lot of positive feedback. So congrats to all the speakers. I think the format was well received. Tomorrow we have a very exciting session. Starting with three subgroups.

Breakout sessions for each sub specialty with hot topics.

And then we'll all come together for an interview of some legends and topics that relate to all of us in the STS. On behalf of the postgrad committee, we thank you all for being here. And let me know if you have any questions.

DR. JACOBS: Thank you very much Dr. Ailawadi. The postgraduate program is outstanding and thanks for your leadership. Next we'll call up Dr. James Gangemi to present the report of the membership committee.

DR. GANGEMI: There we go, Hum. Thank you very much. First of all, I'd like to thank personally Rachel Pebworth. For the, with the STSA.

(Applause)

DR. GANGEMI: She's made my life easier over the past couple of years and is far more patient than anyone in my house at home. So, I'd also like to recognize my partners in crime on the membership committee. Brent Keeling, Hugh Van Gelder, and Curtis Bryan.

I'd like to go through the new members. These are the candidate members that have been

accepted. And, these are the active members and what I'll do is simply go by state.

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri, and Wisconsin. At this point, I'd like to call for a motion to accept the proposed applicants. Discussion? All in favor? Thank you.

DR. JACOBS: Thanks for your leadership Jay.

(Applause)

DR. JACOBS: Next up is Dr. Kim who's going to come up and present the report of the scholarship committee and the Brooks Medical Scholars and the diversity scholars. Dr. Kim has done a tremendous job, he's even taken the time to write a paper about the Brooks Scholars program. Which has recently been accepted to be published the *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*. So, this is some real service to our organization. Thank you.

DR. KIM: Thank you, it's been an honor to serve on the committee this year. And last year. First, I'd like to thank Rachel for helping us to get through this. I don't think I could do this job without her. And, ya know. It

was an absolute pleasure working with you. I'm like to thank on behalf of my scholarship committee who's helped to kinda pick the Brooks Scholars.

These are the medical student scholars. And James Brooks Residents Scholars. Winners. And this year we had the STSA diversity scholars. And this was selected though the ad hoc diversity scholarship committee. And I'll like to also thank the mentors who are kinda volunteered to help these mentees through. And that's the report of the scholarship committee. Thank you.

(Applause)

DR. JACOBS: Thank you very much for all that you've led and next coming is up is Dr. Scott LeMaire. Who's going to present the report of the CME committee as our continuing medical education director.

DR. LeMaire: Ya, thank you. I'd like to start by congratulating President Thourani and the chairs of the program and postgraduate committees. Drs. Preventza, Burkhart, Ailawadi, and Rosengart for putting on just a terrific meeting. It makes my job very easy. And really with the challenges we've had, to see this

meeting come together. Has been really wonderful to see. Two things I want to mention. First of all, after the program. Everybody will be filling out a survey related to, what they liked at the meeting, what they thought could be changed/approved for next year. We look at those comments very seriously.

And, we particularly look at what topics you want to see presented at the following meeting. So, if you notice. A lot of the content of this meeting has been focused on TAVR and catheter based mitral procedures. ECMO, heart failure, multi-modality treatment of esophageal cancer, atrial fibrillation. All of these things were put on the list in 2019. From that survey as topics, we'd like to see presented this year. They ranked very highly.

And we intentionally looked to add those at this program. So, we'll be watching for your comments after this meeting to help us put together the next meeting. The second thing I'll mention is the accrediting council for CME has put out a new set of regulations in terms of reporting and disclosures for meetings. I'll be working with leadership at STSA to help

streamline that process but it'll be a bit different next year.

In terms of disclosures when you do the online submissions of abstracts. So, I'll be working on that and you'll notice changes compared to previous years and we're going to try and make that as hassle free as possible. That concludes my report.

DR. JACOBS: Thank you very much Scott, a lot of work there. Our next up then is going to be Professor Mavroudis who is going to come up and present the report of the historian.

PROF. MAVROUDIS: It's my solemn duty to present the necrology report for our colleagues that have passed this last year. 14 colleagues died this past term and they're listed here. Dr. Bill Alford, the 1996 President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association passed away on July 29th, 2020. A month short of his 90th birthday. He spent most of his educational career at Vanderbilt with a respite in the United States Navy Medical Corps and a fellowship in Leeds, England. He was a long-time clinical professor at Vanderbilt whos' clinical skills were very much admired. Bill's

presidential address predictably extolled the virtues of the STSA. He will be missed.

Dr. Fredrick D'Oench Bergen passed away April 7th, 2021 at 89 years of age. He was a gifted scholar/athlete having completed his education at Williams College and Cornell Medical School. He was a suburb technical surgeon at Petersburg General Hospital in Virginia. He will be missed.

Dr. John W. Brown passed away on February 17th, 2021 at 84 years of age. After his education at Clemson and Duke, he served as a Naval Officer, during the Cuban Missel Crisis. After training at Medical University of South Carolina he had a very successful clinical career which was recognized by Governor Nikki Haley via membership into the Order of the Palmetto. He will be missed.

Dr. Orville W. Clayton, also known as Dr. OW passed away on February 24th, 2021 at 99 years of age. He was an Eagle Scout, high school valedictorian, and World War II veteran as a Captain, United States Army Medical Corps. He earned degrees from the University of Alabama and Northwester Medical School. He was universally respected for his clinical skills

and demeanor as a decent human being. He will be missed.

Dr. Gerald F. Geisler passed away on May 16th, 2021 at the age of 85 years old. He earned degrees from Notre Dame, St. Louis University, and trained at St. Louis University department of surgery. He served as a United State naval Medical Officer and was assigned to the Marine Corps in Vietnam where he was decorated for his service. He had a productive and stellar career at St. Paul Medical Center in Dallas. He will be missed.

Dt. Stuart Harris, Jr passed away on February 12th, 2021 at 89 years of age. He was a lifelong University of Virginia trainee with achievements as a topflight wrestler, Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha. He served his country as a United States Army Medical Corps physician in Munich and completed a 39-year productive career in Lynchburg, VA. He will be missed.

Dr. Charles Ross Hatcher passed away March 27th, 2021. He was graduated from the medical college of Georgia and trained with Dr. Alfred Blalock at Hopkins and Dr. Francis Moore at the Brigham. He had a celebrated career at Emory

achieving every possible accolade that was available. He was President of the STSA in 1984. He STSA Presidential address in 1984 highlighted the changing scope of private practice thoracic surgery in the United States. He was very much ahead of his time. He will be missed.

Dr. Robert H. LePere passed away on March 30th, 2021 at 94 years of age. Coming out of high school, he joined the Army and served overseas as a noncommissioned officer in the infantry as World War II raged on. His undergraduate and medical education was at Baylor and eventually took up practice in San Antonio. After retirement, he volunteered time with Dr. John Calhoon at the University of Texas San Antonio with distinction. He will be missed.

Dr. Richard B. McElvein passed away May 25th, 2021 at 94 years of age. He was educated at Williams College and Tufts Medical School and later served in the United States Navy. He was Chief of Thoracic Surgery at the University of Alabama until his retirement in 1993. In 1986 he was President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. His Presidential address

was ethereal as it was scientific. The members of the audience were glued to their seats. He will be missed.

Dr. Martin McMullan passed away February the 23rd, 2020 at 79 years of age. He was the son of Mississippi in both education and dedication. He had a stellar and productive practice in Jackson, MS and for 32 years after such time, he volunteered his service with distinction. He will be missed.

Dr. Donald Collins Mullen passed away on May 17th, 2020 at 84 years of age. He was an Eagle Scout, graduated from the Citadel, and attended Duke University Medical School. As a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin he helped to make contributions to coronary bypass and valve surgery. In 1988, at the age of 52. He made the unprecedented decision to resign his practice and enter the Princeton Theologic Seminary. He then became a Presbyterian Minister and served as a Medical Missionary the world over. He will be missed.

Dr. Henry Dupont Heck Olinde passed away on April 30th, 2020 at 89 years of age. Just three days short of his 90th birthday. He was a loyal son of Louisiana having been educated at

LSU undergraduate and medical school. He practiced at Baton Rouge until retirement in 2000. He was known as an excellent surgeon and was active in the community as a volunteer to those less fortunate than him. He will be missed.

Dr. James Pate passed away at 92 years of age on January 31st, 2021. He attended Emory and Medical College of Georgian. He had a combined training experience in the United States Navy at Bethesda and the University of Alabama. While at Bethesda, he developed a homograph organ bank to be used for injured soldiers during the Korean conflict. He served as Thoracic Surgery Chair at the University of Tennessee from 1974-1989. He was the STSA President in 1973. He will be missed.

Dr. Rodney W. Wolfe passed away on March 27th, 2021 at 84 years of age. His medical degree and training were accomplished at the University of Tennessee. He had a stellar 50-year practice at Babtist Hospital in Memphis and performed over 10,000 open heart cases with excellent results. He was an innovative surgeon/mentor and wonderful human being. He will be missed.

If you don't mind, please, stand for a moment of silence.

(Moment of silene)

PROF. MAVROUDIS: Thank you very much, you may be seated.

I have just a couple more things of business, if you don't mind? Mr. President and Mr. Chair.

As a historian, I. Do we have any light here? I guess not.

As a historian, I thought I might explore the foundation of a history of a database. The idea is to, retrieve all the program books while we still can. And then put them into a digital database. And then we could also track abstracts as they are formed here. Track them into publication and then, look at them every year or two or three or time and memorial to continue. And find out how many times they are referenced in the literature by other papers.

That gives us an idea just how important these papers are. Quite frankly, I didn't read all of the abstracts, but I did read all of the congenital abstracts and they were all, they were as good as they've ever been. And I think that we have something to be proud of here. Not

only do we have camaraderie, but we also have academic excellence in the extreme.

So, the idea is to document these issues. Also, document who was President, who won this award, who won that award, and put them into a database so we can cross reference them. That would be available to all of us. And how that's going to happen, they said to Jeff Jacobs, and I couldn't do the congenital heart surgery database. But we did, that was 25 years ago.

DR. JACOBS: Yes sir.

PROF. MAVROUDIS: But we did, and we can do this. And I talked this over with President Thourani and he is in good, he is in agreement, and he even thought about this before I mentioned it. Well, my last paragraph is the following.

On a personal note, based on a 38 year as tenure as a member of this association. I have witnessed during these unprecedented COVID restrictions an extraordinary call to arms. By our unmatched administratives that have been noted here. Any by the council members. The camaraderie for which the STS is well-known has not changed one iota since I've been here. In fact, it's gotten better.

I sense that the willingness to work together has enhanced dramatically. There is a tendency for the old guard, I guess me and some of the others around here. That things are longed for the good old days. Well, the good old days are now, they're here. Right in this room and will continue to be that way.

These unfortunately I suppose are the musings of an aging but still competent congenital heart surgeon. That ends my report Mr. President and Mr. Chairmen.

(Applause)

DR. JACOBS: Very well-done Gus, very well done. The next item on the agenda is the report of the *Annals* of Thoracic Surgery which I will present on behalf of Dr. Patterson who is unable to attend.

This is some slides from the *Annals* showing the visual abstracts that are on the cover. Which are outstanding. This is a list of all the different manuscripts submissions in 2018, 2019, 20, and 21 as is in the big blue box, Dr. Patterson has documented that we have a return to pre-pandemic submission rates right now.

There's a 7% increase in original articles in the *Annals* compared to 2019. And there's a 37% decrease in review articles from 2019. So that's the data on the data slide.

This shows the status of recent papers from both the STS and the Southern Thoracic. Those that were both oral presentations and poster presentations, there from the STS. And here's the same data from the Southern Thoracic. So, we can see that for example in Marco Island there were 47 papers that came out of this meeting that have been published or impressed two that are awaiting revision. And 21 rejected for a 67% acceptance rate from the oral presentations.

And last year, as all of us know. We did not meet. We had a virtual meeting which generated 12 manuscripts that have been accepted or are impress. The *Annals* also and this slide points out. The podcasts that are featured in the *Annals* with the Beyond the Abstract feature. These have had over 20,000 total downloads of 18 episodes. And we believe that these lead to increasing views and listenership.

And that completes the report of, from the *Annals* of Thoracic Surgery for Dr. Patterson. Dr. Patterson will be completing his time in editor-in-chief of the *Annals* of Thoracic Surgery come January 1st. So, we should have a round of applause for Dr. Patterson.

(Applause)

DR. JACOBS: Again, thanking him for his tremendous service. Now before I move on to the report of the Nominating Committee Vinod and I are going to go a little off script to say an additional thank you. This is important because I don't know that anybody realizes how much work is involved with this particular piece. President Thourani.

DR. THOURANI: Great, thank you so much Jeff. I know that we're all waiting for Dr. Carpenter to come up but just a couple of words. First of all, just a reminder to the new members. The two of you. Who are here in the room, to come forward for a picture at the front screen here. And number two, we have not had a council picture since we didn't meet last year. So, we'd like the council to also come forward. There are more than two of you here.

To the front and we'll take a picture. Where the chairs are.

DR. JACOBS: Here's the important part.

DR. THOURANI: I want to congratulate, Jeff and I both really want to congratulate, um, and we'll ask for just a standing ovation and round of applause for the STSA staff. And they are absolutely remarkable and have pulled off a meeting that nobody, no one, no society or association has done in two years. Beth, Laura, Rachel, Sarah, Ashley, and Meagan. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

(Applause)

DR. THOURANI: Just got one last comment from me as I'd like to thank everyone in the room. You trusted our process. You trusted the STSA status process for an in-person meeting. And, we, Jeff, I, Dan really appreciate your support for the Southern. So, thank you.

DR. JACOBS: Ya, and I would echo what Vinod said. The amount of work that went into pulling off this meeting in the time of COVID is stunning and none of us would be here if not for the people at that table. It's a big, big deal. So, thank you guys.

And now to conclude, we will call up the Chair of our Nominating Committee, past President Dr. Carpenter to provide the report of the Nominating Committee. AJ, you have the floor.

DR. CARPENTER: As I'm sure most people are aware the nominating committee consists of the four most recent past presidents of the organization. With the most senior in the group serving as the chair and it's been my privilege this year to do exactly that. The committee consists of Dr. Jeff Jacobs, Dr. David Jones, Dr. Kevin Accola, and myself.

The committee met about three weeks ago by Zoom and had near unanimous decision-making process going forward. Mr. President, the first nominee we'd like to put forward for a vote is Dr. Dan Miller to serve as President of the Society for the 69th Annual meeting.

We'll vote one by one?

DR. THOURANI: Yes, a vote for that.

DR. CARPENTER: Are there any nominations from the floor? Seeing none, the nominations are closed. All in favor as Dr. Miller as the new President?

(Aye)

DR. CARPENTER: Anyone opposed? I'm sure he'd cut your lung out if you opposed him.

(LAUGHTER)

DR. MILLER: I've got a dart like an arrow over here if you do.

(LAUGHTER)

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

DR. CARPENTER: Mr. President, the committee nominates Dr. Stephen yang to advance to the office of First Vice President/President Elect of the organization. Are there any nominees from the floor? Seeing none, nominations are closed. All those in favor of Dr. Yang as First Vice President, please say aye.

(AYE)

DR. MILLER: I want to see more robot dancing.

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

DR. CARPENTER: Don't hold your breath. Umm, we have one open council position to fill, and the nominating committee has nominated Dr. Ourania Preventza from Houston to serve in that role. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Seeing none, the nominations are closed.

All those in favor of Dr. Preventza as a council member say aye.

(AYE)

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

DR. CARPENTER: Ok, the last position the Nominating Committee fills is the position of the Second Vice President. We're going to do things slightly differently this year because the very first word out of my mouth about this individual will give everyone a great hint to who that individual is. So, I'm going to ask the other present members of the Nominating Committee Drs. Jacobs and Accola to please collect our nominee for Second Vice President. Dr. Melanie Edwards.

(APPLAUSE)

DR. CARPENTER: Dr. Melanie Edwards comes to us from a very atypical route. Born in Canada in High Prairie, her family moved to Jamaica in her youth. During high school the family returned to Canada where she finished her high school education at Cedar Bay Collegiate Institute in Toronto. Perhaps it was a subtle pull towards an eventual membership and Presidency of the Southern Thoracic that

took her to Huntsville, AL where she did her pre-medical education at Oakwood University.

She then went on to sunny California for medical school at Loma Linda and I suppose still driven by some urge to move frequently, she went to the east coast for general surgery residency at Beth Israel Deaconess. Following that with a more central location, training in thoracic surgery at St Louis University. Her first faculty appointment was at Louisiana State University.

She then spent a year back in California for a minimally invasive fellowship with Dr. Rob McKenna at Cedars-Sinai before joining the faculty at St. Louis University. Partnering with then STSA President Keith Naunheim, who was very sorry he couldn't be here to walk her to the stage himself. For the past three years, she has been at IHA Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery in Ypsilanti, MI. But remains active in the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. Today we present Dr. Edwards as nominee for the Second Vice President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association.

Are there any nominations from the floor?
Hearing none, I ask for a vote all in favor of
Dr. Edwards please say aye.

(AYE)

Anyone opposed? Dr. Edwards,
congratulations.

(Motion made, seconded and approved).

(APPLAUSE)

DR. EDWARDS: Thank you. Well, AJ just
said say something smart. But I'm speechless.
And honored. And this means probably more than
anyone would know because the Southern has been
a home for me for so many years. And as a
junior faculty member, just being able to jump
right in and participate and feel like I was
valued and appreciated even though, I didn't
feel like I knew much. You just sort of show up
and say something and it lands or it doesn't
and you keep participating and it's been an
amazing experience.

And I thank the Nominating Committee for
this honor and my colleagues. I look forward to
serving you to the best of my ability. Thank
you.

(APPLAUSE)

DR. CARPENTER: Dr. Miller, would you please come to the podium? So we can hit you over the head with this little mallet.

(APPLAUSE)

DR. THOURANI: This now concludes the business meeting and we'll look forward to seeing you tonight.

(APPLAUSE)

(The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm).