



SPRING 2014 TSRA PRESIDENTS REPORT

Synopsis of the Past Year's Activities:

The past academic year has been very active and constructive for the TSRA. In an effort to further expand TSRA educational resources, we are in the final publishing phases of our principle project for the year, *TSRA Operative Dictations in Cardiothoracic Surgery*, edited by Current TSRA President, David Odell and Secretary, Damien LaPar. This resource will prove valuable to residents and fellows in all stages of training by providing a review of key operative steps, potential pitfalls, and template dictations for majority of General Thoracic, Acquired Cardiac and Congenital Cardiac operations. Following the prior publishing success of the *TSRA Clinical Scenarios in Cardiothoracic Surgery* series, the TSRA plans to release a PDF version of Operative Dictations as well as a published version available through Amazon in print and electronic format. We will also work to develop a downloadable app to enhance its use by residents and surgeons. In partnership with the TSDA and the JCTSE, we hope to make these resources available on the WebBrain similar to past TSRA publications. In addition, we will release the first edition of the TSRA Journal Club, an annotated bibliography of seminal articles (edited by Ben Wei, MD) and will make this available for residents and surgeons through the TSRA website.

The TSRA has also made significant gains in increasing its scholarship and academic profile with the cardiothoracic surgical community. Through multiple analyses of In-Training Examination survey results the TSRA has drafted several abstracts and manuscripts for submission and potential presentation and publication to the following organizations: Western Thoracic Surgical Association, Southern Thoracic Surgical Association, Society of Thoracic Surgeons, Annals of Thoracic Surgery, and the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. The focus of these studies have primarily addressed resident perceptions related to education and interview processes trainees at all levels, including those matriculating I-6 programs.

The TSRA has continued its efforts to expand its role within the resident community and serve as a primary liaison for resident camaraderie and professional development opportunities. Through the successful planning of the Education and Membership committees, the TSRA has organized resident luncheons at both the STS and AATS annual meetings addressing issues related to differences and success in both university and private practice environments as well as teambuilding and leadership with cardiothoracic surgery. The TSRA has also hosted social events for residents and their spouses at the STS and AATS meetings. The TSRA website, Facebook account, and newly established Twitter account have provided additional networking resources for trainees.



Current Activities and Future Directions:

Continuing the momentum of the organization over the past 2-3 years, the TSRA is actively pursuing the creation of additional educational resources for residents. We are in the early phases of planning and development of a new project, *TSRA Selected Readings in Cardiothoracic Surgery*, which will be a series based topic review of current and seminal primary literature in cardiothoracic surgery. An editorial board for this resource will be established at the AATS TSRA Executive Committee meeting, with planned publication to coincide with the 2015 STS Annual Meeting. We will also plan to release an update of the *TSRA Review in Cardiothoracic Surgery (2nd ed)* to be released in the Spring of 2015.

The TSRA has also established a donation mechanism through its website. The organization plans to dedicate these funds to create an annual *TSRA Traveling Fellowship in Cardiothoracic Surgery*. This will provide partial or complete funding for a 5-7 day traveling fellowship for the award recipient to visit an established partner hospital and faculty mentor in the United States. We believe that this fellowship will serve to both augment the training experience for the resident and increase collaboration and a sense of community among residents. We plan to work with the TSDA, JCTSE, and AATS Education Committee to establish a network of hospitals/attending surgeons as serve as host facilities for this program.

The TSRA continues to look to the future of the organization with pride and excitement. This coming year we plan to further develop the aforementioned projects as well as our partnership with other professional and resident organizations, including the ACC Fellows in Training (FIT) program and the American College of Surgeons Resident Advocate Society (RAS). We will plan to work further with the TSDA and JCTSE to facilitate the further development of the TSC Curriculum.