

**STS Workforce on Thoracic Surgery Resident Issues
May 2016**

Since the last Workforce activity report submitted in January 2016, this group has focused on the following projects:

STS Residents Symposium and STS Residents Luncheon

Both the STS Residents Symposium and the STS Residents Luncheon had excellent turnout at the STS 52nd Annual Meeting. The STS Residents Symposium focused on five topics addressed by subject matter experts, followed by small group discussions led by senior surgeons and faculty, and large group discussions among attendees. Presentation topics included: How to Find Your First Job; Keys to a Successful Interview; What You Need to Know about Contracts; Building a Successful Clinical Practice; and Early Career Development. Attendees gave high marks to the presentations and table discussions. New co-chairs of the STS Residents Symposium Planning Task Force will be identified in the near future. The WFTSRI would like to acknowledge Drs. Sandra Starnes and Sidhu Gangadharan for their leadership as co-chairs of the Task Force from 2014-2016.

The STS Residents Luncheon also received excellent reviews from attendees and provided an opportunity for residents to network with surgeon leaders and address a number of issues, including different approaches to training, gaps in training, the current state of the job market, and how CT surgeons should invest their efforts on behalf of the specialty. Surgeon leader attendees included members of the STS Board of Directors, Workforce Chairs, Looking to the Future Mentors, and TSDA and TSRA leaders. Suggested topics for future luncheons included resident wellness during training; how to establish a research program as new faculty; the business of surgery; and catheter-based technology and training.

Looking to the Future Scholarship Program

Sixty "Looking to the Future" Scholars attended the STS 52nd Annual Meeting (30 medical students, 30 general surgery residents). This year the program was expanded to accommodate 10 additional scholars (5 medical students, 5 general surgery residents) to broaden the specialty's outreach to prospective CT surgery residents. Programming included a Medical Student Program, a General Surgery Resident Program, receptions, networking opportunities, parallel sessions, plenary sessions, and STSU for General Surgery Residents. The mentor portion of the program received excellent feedback from scholars with all rating the program valuable (7%) or very valuable (91%). Demographics included 43% female recipients among the resident group, and 53% female recipients among the medical student group. The LTTF Task Force is working toward establishing a database to house all LTTF data going back to the program's inception, including applicants, scholars and mentors. The database will be used to evaluate the value of the program and to contact scholars as they approach the time when they start applying for CT surgical training.