



American Association  
for Thoracic Surgery



## ***Medical Student & Resident Opportunities Report to the TSDA***

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The AATS appreciates the opportunity to provide a report to the TSDA. Below we have highlighted a number of important Resident and Medical Student opportunities being offered by the Association which we hope you might share with colleagues at your institution. Additional details on these activities can be found on either the AATS ([www.aats.org](http://www.aats.org)) or AATS Graham Foundation ([www.AATSGrahamFoundation.org](http://www.AATSGrahamFoundation.org)) websites.

### **AATS and the AATS Graham Foundation**

The mission of the AATS is to *Promote Scholarship, Innovation, and Leadership in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. Its leadership and its members aspire to emulate the motto: "We Model Excellence" while holding to the AATS core values of Leadership, Scholarship, Mentoring, Excellence in Patient Care, Integrity and Professionalism.

The AATS Graham Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of many AATS initiatives. The Foundation, with the support of the Association, provides training awards and educational experiences in order to provide medical students, residents, and cardiothoracic surgeons with opportunities to enhance their professional development and to ensure long-term strength of their specialty.

### **Cardiothoracic Residents**

AATS provides a number of opportunities available to residents.

- [\*C. Walton Lillehei Forum\*](#)  
Enables eight residents to present and compete for a \$5,000 award at the AATS Annual Meeting by funding their registration, travel and expenses.
- [\*Complimentary Subscriptions to AATS Publications\*](#)  
Provides North American residents and AATS Summer Interns complimentary one-year online and print subscriptions to *JTCVS*, *Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*.
- [\*Critical Care Scholarship\*](#)  
Exposes CT surgery residents to cardiovascular critical care by providing complimentary registration and funding for travel to attend the annual FACTS-Care Cardiovascular-Thoracic (CVT) Care Conference.
- [\*JCTSE Cardiothoracic Surgery Resident "Top Gun" Competition\*](#)  
The AATS supports the JCTSE's Annual "Top Gun" Competition which will be held during the 2016 AATS Annual Meeting.
- [\*Registration to AATS Meetings\*](#)  
Residents receive complimentary registration to the AATS Annual Meeting including the Saturday and Sunday courses. Additionally, they receive discounted registration to all other AATS Meetings.

- [Resident Poster Competition](#)

Enables senior CT surgery residents and/or congenital heart surgery fellows from around the world to present a poster of their clinical or laboratory research at the AATS Annual Meeting. Recipients each receive a \$500 grant to offset travel/accommodations and complimentary registration to the conference.

- [Resident Involvement on AATS Committees](#)

For several years the AATS has worked with the TSRA and appointed residents to serve on the Association's Education, Scientific and Government Relations, Information Technology, and Cardiothoracic Residents Committees. Residents have also been involved in our interaction with the AAMC, serving actively as ad hoc reviewers on the AATS Annual Meeting Abstract Committee, and participating on the Editorial Board of the Association's *Op Techs* and the *TSN* publications.

- [Thoracic Surgery News](#)

This monthly publication serves to keep the specialty abreast of current cardiothoracic surgery news and events. The "Resident's Corner", overseen by two resident Associate Editors, provides current news of importance to residents.

### **Medical Students**

The AATS and its Foundation have continued outreach to medical students in several important ways:

- [Registrations to AATS Meetings](#)

Medical students receive complimentary registration to the AATS Annual Meeting including the Saturday and Sunday courses. Additionally, they receive discounted registration to all other AATS Meetings.

- [Summer Intern Scholarship](#)

Provides first and second-year medical students with an eight-week summer internship in an AATS member's CT surgery department. Includes a \$2,500 grant for living expenses. AATS Summer interns also receive a complimentary, one-year subscription to *JTCVS*, *Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*.

To date, over 250 North American students from 75 medical schools have received almost one million dollars in scholarships.

- [Complimentary Subscriptions to AATS Publications](#)

Provides North American residents and AATS Summer Interns complimentary one-year online and print subscriptions to *JTCVS*, *Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*.

### **Medical Students, General Surgery Residents, and I-6 Cardiothoracic Residents**

- [Member for a Day Program](#)

Now on its third year, this program provides North American medical students, general surgery residents and integrated CT residents (within their first three years) the opportunity to accompany an AATS Member Mentor and/or Thoracic Surgery Residents Association member during segments of the AATS Annual Meeting. Awardees receive \$750 in stipends to offset travel and meal costs. All medical students, general surgery residents, I-6 CT residents, and American Physician Scientist Association Members attending the Annual Meeting are welcome to attend the Session which will be held from 7:30pm – 9:00pm on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### **Post Residency**

- [AATS Research Scholarship](#)

Supports North American surgeons with a two-year \$160,000 grant to pursue research, training and clinical experience. Scholarships are named after past presidents of the Association. To date, 37 awardees have received over \$4 million in grants.

- [\*Advanced Valve Disease Educational Fellowship - Sponsored by Medtronic\*](#)

Offers surgeons the opportunity to interactively observe valvular heart disease specialists and connect with them about treatment, technical skills, and management of perioperative patients for a minimum of one month to three months.

- [\*Denton A. Cooley Fellowship\*](#)

Provides an educational experience for North American thoracic surgeons who are in their final year of their residency or have recently completed their residency within the past two years to spend four weeks studying at the Texas Heart Institute and Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center.

- [\*Evarts A. Graham Traveling Fellowship\*](#)

Enhances the training of international academic CT surgeons and increases their international contacts by underwriting one-year of study at North American institutions. Includes a \$75,000 stipend and round-trip airfare. Since 1951, fellows have included 65 individuals from 33 countries.

- [\*Every Heartbeat Matters Valve Fellowship - Sponsored by Edwards Lifesciences Foundation\*](#)

Supports up to three months of advanced heart valve disease training and education to enhance the knowledge and skills of practicing cardiothoracic surgeons who are already treating or committed to treating underserved patients worldwide.

- [\*Every Heartbeat Matters Travel Awards for the AATS Annual Meeting - Sponsored by Edwards Lifesciences Foundation\*](#)

Surgeons from China are eligible for a limited number of travel awards to the 2016 AATS Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. These awards are available to surgeons demonstrating a financial need and who treat heart valve disease patients in underserved populations.

- [\*F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship\*](#)

Supports surgeons who have finished their residencies to advance their clinical techniques at a North American host institute. Each fellow receives \$3,500 to defray living expenses during four to six weeks of training. This is the first "Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship," a program acknowledging the leadership and dedication of surgeons in the field.

- [\*Fellowship for Advanced Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery- Sponsored by Ethicon\*](#)

Offers North American young CT surgeons and their surgical teams the opportunity to enhance their skills in thoracic minimally invasive surgery by spending a one- or two-day period at clinical sites.

- [\*Graham Surgical Investigator Program\*](#)

Provides up to \$50,000 annually to support innovative clinical or translational research by young CT surgeons for up to two years.

- [\*James L. Cox Fellowship in Atrial Fibrillation Surgery - Sponsored by AtriCure\*](#)

Gives newly graduated CT surgeons the opportunity to spend one to three months improving their atrial fibrillation techniques at a host institution.

- [\*Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery/AATS Graham Foundation Fellowship\*](#)

This program is primarily geared to young Japanese cardiothoracic surgeons to provide an interactive educational opportunity to observe and have discussions with specialists in the treatment of heart valve disease at select host institutions in North America.

- [\*Lawrence H. Cohn Clinical Scholar Program\*](#)

This program is for young cardiac surgeons who are in the final year of their residency or have recently completed their residency and are interested in obtaining an advanced experience with valvular surgery or care.

- [\*Learn from the Masters: A Clinical Program\*](#)

Offers cardiac surgeons from around the world who have recently completed their residency or fellowship. The award will support the applicant to spend three or six months at the Mentor's institution either in North America or abroad.

- [\*Marc R. de Leval Fellowship\*](#)

Provides opportunities for North American trainees and early career congenital heart surgeons to spend four to six weeks obtaining an international surgical experience at an institution in Europe or the United Kingdom as part of their education. The AATS Graham Foundation is proud to recognize this as the second "Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship," program.

- [\*North America Clinical Immersion in Advanced Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery Fellowship - Sponsored by Medtronic\*](#)

Offers young Chinese surgeons the opportunity to spend up to three months obtaining expertise in advanced minimally invasive thoracic surgery, comprehensive care screening and diagnosis at North American institutions.

- [\*Surgical Robotics Fellowship – Sponsored by Intuitive Surgical\*](#)

Familiarizes North American general thoracic fellows and their attending surgeons with the Da Vinci robotics system during two days of onsite, advanced training. Includes a \$2,500 grant to defray airfare and accommodations at the training center. Awardees who complete the fellowship will be eligible to participate in the Advanced Lobectomy Course.

- [\*Thoracic Surgery Training Fellowship– Sponsored by Ethicon China\*](#)

Offers young Chinese surgeons the opportunity to spend between one month and one year obtaining advanced thoracic surgery skills at North American institutions.