

**MINUTES**  
**THORACIC SURGERY RESIDENCY ADMINISTRATORS/COORDINATORS SECTION**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2008**  
**8:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

Suzanne Giannotti, President TS-RACS, opened the meeting at 8:00 AM, welcomed the attendees, reviewed the agenda and announced the guest speakers. See attached attendee list and agenda.

<b>TOPICS/ Speaker</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION / FOLLOW UP</b>
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suzanne Giannotti, President, opened meeting and welcomed guests 8:00 AM</li> </ul>	
Welcome Dr. John W. Brown Chair, TSDA Indiana University School of Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome to STS on behalf of the TSDA</li> <li>• Thanked all coordinators/administrators for their attendance at the meeting and for extraordinary efforts on the job... "A daunting task"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Doris Stoll, Ph.D. Former Executive Director ACGME RRC Committee, Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanked coordinators for their hard work and challenging responsibilities</li> <li>• Accreditation process, - "The Good, Bad and the Ugly"</li> <li>• PIF, Program Requirements and new Common PIF               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Remember the difference between "Must" and "Should"</li> <li>○ Read the program requirements thoroughly</li> <li>○ Read the PIF thoroughly as you formulate responses</li> <li>○ PIF must reflect REALITY of the program – no fluff</li> <li>○ PIF, Evaluations, Goals and Objectives must show consistency</li> <li>○ Write PIF for a lay reader, make it clear and concise, not ethereal</li> <li>○ Site Visitor role to triangulate information between PD, residents, and documents</li> <li>○ Insure residents, faculty, PD review PIF thoroughly before site review</li> <li>○ Use "what you do" to answer PIF questions: TSDA Curriculum, M&amp;M Conferences, Resident/faculty Committee participation, etc.</li> <li>○ Robust Evaluation System essential for good program, show improvement, actions plans, outcomes, add written text to electronic evaluation systems                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Suggested reviewing Urology evaluation systems/format and Reznick for surgical procedure evaluation format contents</li> <li>▪ Evaluations should be rotation specific and time specific</li> <li>▪ Evaluation completion is an area of professional responsibility and non-responders will face consequences.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Simulation – the way of the future, just do it               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If work in the simulation lab is REQUIRED, it counts toward duty hours.</li> <li>▪ If not required, it does not count for 80 hour programs, but would count for 88 hour programs</li> <li>▪ Any opportunity for cross-hospital simulation is an opportunity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recent site visits / most common citations to be published in upcoming ACGME Newsletter</li> <li>• Faculty Teaching: Do you conduct a Faculty Development meeting annually?</li> <li>• Residents often comment they want more "face time" with faculty for instruction</li> <li>• RRC is mandated to issue a citation for duty hour violations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation attached</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confidentiality regarding negative aspects of your program is crucial, particularly in a time of fewer applicants.</li> </ul>	
Richard H. Feins, MD Professor Surgery UNC Chapel Hill Chair, ABTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a former resident, thank you for being our [residents] “best friends” and hard work</li> <li>“Cardiothoracic Resident Education Initiative” :Why we are where we are and where we hope to go <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simple Truths: medical students and surgery residents make their decision on their friends’ recommendations and CT program reputations. Recently, the CT reputation and ‘face’ is not positive.</li> <li>Recruitment issues not due gender, pay scale, available jobs, it’s the face the students sees in the academic environment</li> <li>Change needed in the teaching model</li> <li>Simulation will be key for future</li> <li>Opportunities for Senior Surgeon Tours – retired faculty teach in simulation labs</li> <li>CT take charge of CT training by reengineering to 6 year model, 4-2 and 3-3 models</li> <li>New initiative for CT “Boot Camp” 1-2 week training period offered regionally and or nationally for PGY 6 residents to learn basic skills before starting program. Tailored after aviation and armed services model</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact UNC for details</li> <li>Contact UNC with retired faculty recommendations</li> </ul>
Peggy Simpson, Ed. Executive Director RRC/ACGME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognizes coordinators efforts and challenges - a thank you for your earnest endeavors and dedication</li> <li>Review of current program closings – 6 withdrew in 2007</li> <li>Integrated Programs applications – complete “New” accreditation PIF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New FAQs and Guide under development for integrated programs and will be on ACGME site soon</li> </ul> </li> <li>Common [recent] citations: patient care experience (16), evaluation (15) program personnel and resource issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Her office is available for communication</li> </ul>
Christine Morrison, RN, MSN, U of VA Health System Coordinator VP TS-RACS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Joint Training Programs”</li> <li>Pilot program – RRC-TS approved for 4 programs at present- alternative Educational format to provide clinical experiences in cardiothoracic surgery</li> <li>PGY 4 (or 5) a <u>General surgery resident</u> has clinical rotations focused on cardiac and general thoracic surgery -</li> <li>Surgical operative cases during this JTP year count for BOTH general surgery and Thoracic surgery</li> <li>Agreement with General Surgery PD essential to success of program</li> <li>Formal application process for candidate</li> <li>RRC –TS and RRC-GS must approve pilot program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See attachment</li> </ul>
Emily A. Farkas, MD Division of CT Surgery Saint Louis University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Perspective of Women in Cardiac Surgery”</li> <li>Recent Yale graduate, thanked Suzanne Giannotti for her dedication and support as she progressed in her program. First female CT graduate for Yale.</li> <li>Talked about the future of CT field for women. She believe it is positive; her experience has been positive</li> <li>In general the CT fields needs recognition</li> <li>Recruitment endeavors will benefit from earlier contact with medical students and surgery students</li> <li>Remind female applicants that the TS Women’s Association has a mentor program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcomes communication - Email is best.</li> </ul>
Robert Oberteuffer, Chief Architect CTSNet, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CTSNet Program Toolkit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use it, load resident information (used to verify in-training exam info) and faculty information</li> <li>Multiple criteria search</li> <li>PD interface new</li> <li>Review consult section</li> <li>Review VATS cases, may be double responses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update your CTSNet postings</li> <li>Ask current residents to review their case logs after recent</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If residents find inconsistencies, reconciliation should be requested</li> <li>○ OP Log columns [table headings] expand and contract</li> <li>• New Operative Log – upgrade complete, visually friendly, more search features</li> <li>• SESATS IX/X – available soon – application may be “bundled” to reduce shipping costs. Contact CTSNet</li> <li>• Carol Blasberg, Managing Editor CTSNet – send CTSNet resident photos</li> <li>• Nancy Gray Puckett, Executive Director, TSDA</li> </ul>	software upgrade
Mary McConnell, MHA Carolinas Medical Center Coordinator / C-TAGME Secretary, TS-RACS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAGME Update – without additional applications, Mary will resign post; future interest should be directed to the TAGME leadership via their web page. Tagme.com</li> <li>• ACGME New Common PIF:ADS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review of new format, important “links”, navigating the site</li> <li>○ Warning – SAVE your data entry often</li> <li>○ Warning – Review your program information vs. the new Common PIF for 2007 migration errors.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• ACGME Program Directors Handbook comprehensive, an invaluable tool for PIF completion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact TAGME for certification information</li> <li>• Email Mary with questions</li> </ul>
Open Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CT Recruitment issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Programs with medical student and/or internships realize an advantage</li> <li>○ Discussion of current MATCH applicant pool. Programs report from 10 to 55 current (as of 1/15/08) applications via ERAS</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-ACGME fellowships / DO. Review program requirements carefully. DO from non-accredited program not eligible for CT residency slot.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AATS Site posting open positions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go to site to post/review open resident positions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carla McLean asked for web site committee volunteers. Committee assists TSDA with TS-RACS updates and postings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Carla for information and details</li> </ul>
Business Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review 2007 meeting minutes / approval</li> <li>• Nomination/ Election of Officers – not necessary until 2009</li> <li>• Certificates of Attendance Handout</li> <li>• Suzanne and Chris thanked all attendees for participation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes approved</li> </ul>
Meeting dismissed at 5:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2009 Conference in San Francisco</li> </ul>	