The Society of Thoracic Surgeons Fifty-First Annual Meeting January 24–28, 2015 San Diego Convention Center San Diego, California

The Fifty-First Annual Meeting of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) will be held at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, California, January 24–28, 2015, with STS/American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) Tech-Con 2015 scheduled for Saturday, January 24 and Sunday, January 25, 2015.

The Annual Meeting is open to all physicians, residents, fellows, research scientists, perfusionists, physician assistants, nurses, and others interested in cardiothoracic surgery. Members and nonmembers are both strongly urged to register in advance. Meeting attendees will be provided with the latest scientific information and technological advances in the field.

Members of the STS Workforce on Annual Meeting, along with STS President David A. Fullerton, MD, have designed an innovative, contemporary, and interactive 2015 meeting in an effort to improve the educational experience for all attendees.

As part of the STS 51st Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 24, the STS/CHEST: Primer on Advanced and Therapeutic Bronchoscopy—Theory and Hands-on Session will be offered again, along with STS/Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists (SCA): The Utility of Perioperative Echocardiography for Surgical Decision Making. The Practice Management Summit, the Acquired and Congenital Heart Surgery Symposium, and the STS/AATS Critical Care Symposium will be half-day sessions held on Sunday morning. On Sunday afternoon, courses include the annual General Thoracic and Congenital Surgical Symposia, Residents Symposium, and CT Surgery Interprofessional Education Symposium.

The STS Annual Meeting scientific sessions will begin in full force on Monday, January 26, with the J. Maxwell Chamberlain Memorial Papers, the meeting's highest-rated papers, followed by the Richard E. Clark Papers, the best abstracts using data from the STS National Database, a brief 50th Anniversary tribute to *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, and the much-anticipated Presidential Address from Dr Fullerton. After those presentations, the meeting will include a wide variety of disease-specific sessions. In addition to abstracts presenting cutting-edge research findings, these sessions will include pro/con debates, lectures, and invited talks from world-renowned speakers. Visit http://www.sts.org/education-meetings/sts-annual-meeting for further details.

The STS Annual Meeting will continue with latebreaking clinical trials or quality improvement abstract sessions on Monday afternoon delivering the latest developments in research that will affect the practice of cardiothoracic surgery. These sessions will be finalized within weeks before the Annual Meeting, making for timely presentations on vital topics.

Also on Monday afternoon, the Scientific Posters & Wine event will give attendees the opportunity to view

the 2015 posters in the company of their colleagues. The scientific posters will be displayed throughout the meeting, and attendees will be encouraged to view the posters during session breaks to learn about the innovative research being performed in the field. Posters will cover all cardiothoracic surgery subspecialties.

Tuesday, January 27, will kick off with Early Riser Sessions, followed by the highly anticipated Thomas B. Ferguson lecture by Pedro J. del Nido, MD, President of the AATS, and the C. Walton Lillehei lecture by Patrick T. O'Gara, MD, President of the American College of Cardiology. After those lectures will be the popular Ethics Debate, featuring pro/con presentations and discussion on whether surgeons in training programs should allow residents to operate on their patients to satisfy board requirements.

Concluding the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 28, is STS University, which allows attendees to use the knowledge they gained during the first part of the Annual Meeting in hands-on sessions. STS University courses are designed to improve knowledge, competence, and performance in the given topics. The STS University courses will be held 7:00 AM—9:00 AM and repeated 9:30 AM—11:30 AM. The 2015 hands-on courses include Mitral Valve Repair; Valve-Sparing Aortic Root Replacement; Aortic Root Enlarging Procedures; TAVR/TEVAR, Guidewires, and Sheaths; Long-Term Circulatory/Respiratory Support; Atrial Switch, Double Switch: The Mustard and the Senning; VATS Lobectomy; Advanced Endotracheobronchial Procedures; Advanced Esophageal and Tracheal Procedures; and ICU/Echo.

Advance registration is *required* for STS University courses. Hands-on labs will have limited workstation accommodations. For more information, please visit http://www.sts.org/education-meetings/sts-annual-meeting.

Registration and Fees

An *Advance Program*, including educational content, travel and hotel information, and social activities, will be mailed to STS members and the previous year's registrants in mid-November. The *Advance Program* and additional detailed meeting information also are available at http://www.sts.org/education-meetings/sts-annual-meeting.

On or before December 1, 2014, the registration fee is \$250 for Active Members, International Members, and Associate Member Physicians and \$100 for Associate Member Nonphysicians. For nonmembers, the registration fee through December 1, 2014, is \$825 for physicians and \$275 for nonphysicians. For pending Active and International Members (those who have submitted completed application materials by October 15, 2014), the registration fee is \$650 through December 1, 2014.

After December 1, 2014, registration rates will increase by \$100 for STS Active, International, and Associate Members, and by \$150 for nonmembers and pending members.

STS Candidate and Pre-Candidate Members can register for the Annual Meeting for free, whereas nonmember residents/fellows and medical students will be charged \$100 on or before December 1, 2014, and \$200 after December 1, 2014. Please refer to the STS Web site or the *Advance Program* for more details on registration rates for the STS Annual Meeting.

STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015, which requires separate registration from the STS Annual Meeting, will be held January 24–25, 2015. The program will cover the latest technological advances within cardiothoracic surgery. The cost of registration, which includes a reception on Saturday evening and a ticket for the Networking Luncheon on Sunday, is \$400 for members of STS or AATS and \$625 for nonmembers. For STS Candidate Members, Pre-Candidate Members, and nonmember residents/fellows, and medical students, there is no charge. After December 1, 2014, the registration fee for STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015 increases by \$100.

Presentation and Publication

For each abstract that is presented orally or as a poster during the STS 51st Annual Meeting, a corresponding full manuscript must be submitted for consideration to The Annals of Thoracic Surgery on or before Wednesday, January 28, 2015. Manuscripts must be submitted online at www. atseditorial office.org. Editorial staff will be on hand at the meeting to assist those submitting papers if they need help. Manuscripts will not be considered for publication if submitted after Wednesday, January 28, 2015, at 11:59 PM PST. All papers become the property of the Society. Publication of all manuscripts in The Annals of Thoracic Surgery is not assured. If manuscripts are not submitted to The Annals before or at the time of the STS Annual Meeting, a 2-year period of ineligibility for participation in the STS Annual Meeting will be imposed upon all authors of the paper. The same 2-year sanction applies to all manuscripts returned to authors for revisions that are not resubmitted within 1 calendar year of the request for the revision.

Oral presenters for the Scientific Sessions should limit their presentations to the time allotted and are required to meet with the audiovisual technicians the day before their presentation in the Speaker Ready Room. Power-Point presentations will be downloaded from the Speaker Ready Room and networked to the Scientific Session meeting rooms.

Scientific Posters may be set up on Saturday, January 24, 2015, 8:00 am-5:00 pm, or Sunday, January 25, 2015, 8:00 am-2:00 pm. Poster boards will be $4' \times 8'$ (usable surface is $3'9'' \times 7'9''$ [114.3 cm \times 236.2 cm]).

Accreditation-STS 51st Annual Meeting

The STS is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. STS designates this live activity for a maximum of 34.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015

January 24–25, 2015 San Diego Convention Center San Diego, California

Program Description

STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015 is geared toward those interested in the latest technological advances in cardiothoracic surgery. This concentrated day-and-a-half meeting will provide pertinent information regarding the latest technology available in adult cardiac and general thoracic surgery. Lectures will consist of robust technical reviews of leading-edge techniques delivered by internationally recognized experts.

The program will address the most important and innovative topics, including concepts that are currently in development. Presentations will be dynamic and interactive, providing a superior educational experience. Panel discussions and debates will be incorporated throughout the sessions to further refine controversial areas and engage participants. Please plan to attend this important joint STS/AATS event.

A detailed description of the STS 51st Annual Meeting and STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015, along with registration details, can be found at http://www.sts.org/education-meetings/sts-annual-meeting and are included in the STS 51st Annual Meeting *Advance Program* that will be mailed in mid-November.

Accreditation-STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015

The STS is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. STS designates this live activity for a maximum of 9.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015 and STS 51st Annual Meeting

PROGRAMS

January 23, 2015 (Friday)

3:00 PM-6:00 PM Registration: STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015 and STS 51st Annual Meeting

January 24, 2015 (Saturday)

7:00 AM-6:00 PM Registration: STS/AATS Tech-Con 2015 and STS 51st Annual Meeting

8:00 AM-12:30 PM STS/SCA: The Utility of Perioperative Echocardiography for Surgical Decision Making

8:00 AM-3:00 PM STS/CHEST: Primer on Advanced and Therapeutic Bronchoscopy— Theory and Hands-on Session

1:00 PM-2:30 PM Cardiopulmonary Bypass Simulation Course

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