ANNOUNCEMENTS

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery

The AATS Welcomes You to Submit Your Abstract and Videos for AATS Week 2015

2015 Mitral Conclave

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Abstract/Video Deadline: Sunday, January 4, 2015, by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time.

Submission of Abstracts and Case Videos

The AATS welcomes you to submit your Abstracts and Videos to the MITRAL CONCLAVE 2015. Specific instructions for abstract and video submission are located on the Web site at www.aats.org/mitral.

Accepting Abstracts and Videos in the following categories:

- Degenerative Valve Disease
- Mitral Regurgitation in Heart Failure
- Ischemic Mitral Regurgitation
- Rheumatic Mitral Valve Disease
- Mitral Valve Endocarditis
- Congenital Mitral Valve Disease
- Other Mitral Valve Disease
- Mitral Repair Techniques & Strategies
- Mitral Valve Replacement
- Long-Term Outcomes
- Atrial Fibrillation in Mitral Valve Disease
- Tricuspid Valve Diseases
- Tricuspid Valve Repair
- Mitral & Tricuspid Valve Reoperations
- Mitral Annular Calcification, Abscess, or Disruption
- Imaging of Mitral Valve Disease
- Challenging Clinical Cases
- Minimally Invasive & Robotic Mitral Valve Repair
- Transcatheter Mitral Valve Therapies
- Mitral Valve Modeling
- From Bench to Bedside: Mitral Valve Research

Mark Your Calendar: AATS 95th Annual Meeting

April 25-29, 2015 Washington State Convention Center Seattle, WA, USA Mark your calendar to join cardiothoracic surgeons from around the world for a 5-day program of state-of-the-art presentations by renowned experts. Attendees will enhance their knowledge and skills in a wide-range of subjects including general and specialized cardiac surgery, emerging technologies, congenital heart disease, critical care and aortic/endovascular.

President & Annual Meeting Chair

Pedro J. del Nido

Annual Meeting Co-Chairs

David H. Adams

Yolonda L. Colson

AATS is excited to be hosting its Annual Meeting in Seattle for the first time. This vibrant city combines sophisticated urbanity with the unpretentious natural surroundings of the Pacific Northwest. Nicknamed the "Emerald City" for its lush evergreen forests, Seattle has something for everyone—culture, entertainment, shopping, restaurants, and outdoor activities. And Seattle is the home of great coffee, which can be purchased from carts on every corner.

The meeting site—the recently renovated Washington State Convention Center—is located in the heart of downtown. Within walking distance is Seattle's famous Space Needle, where visitors can view the city, Cascade Mountains and Mt. Rainer, the waters of Elliott Bay, and surrounding forests from the 520-foot observation deck. Other attractions nearby are the Pike Place Market, Pioneer Square, water tours, and ferries. Visitors and Seattleites enjoy Seattle's lively downtown, great shopping, wonderful restaurants, espresso carts on every corner, and thriving community full of live theatre and museums.

Don't Miss the Saturday and Sunday Symposia Including:

Saturday, April 25th

- Adult Cardiac Skills: How I Would Like My Operation Done
- Congenital Heart Disease Skills: *Dealing With Challenging Conditions—Pearls and Pitfalls*
- General Thoracic Skills: Implementing Innovation: What Future Leaders Need to Know
- Allied Health Personnel Symposium: Advancing the Team Based Care Management Model in Cardiothoracic Surgery
- Therapies for End-Stage Thoracic Organ Failure With an Emphasis on ECMO, MCS, and Transplant

Sunday, April 26th

- AATS/STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Symposium: Decision Making in Adult Cardiac Surgery
- AATS/STS Congenital Heart Disease Symposium: Unsettled and Unanswered Questions in Congenital Heart Surgery
- AATS/STS General Thoracic Surgery Symposium: The Evolving Role of Thoracic Surgeons

View full Saturday and Sunday programs online: www.aats.org/annualmeeting.

Sunday Symposia Legends Luncheon

Renowned cardiothoracic surgeons will share their experiences during the interactive Legends Luncheons on Sunday at each of the Postgraduate Symposia. This is a unique opportunity to hear from the true pioneers in cardiothoracic surgery.

Legends Luncheon Speakers

Magdi Yacoub, Imperial College, London Jean Deslauriers, IUCPQ, Canada

You must be registered for a Sunday Postgraduate Symposia to attend the Legends Luncheons.

Saturday and Sunday Registration Covers All Courses/ Symposium for the Day

When you register for the Saturday course and Sunday symposia, you will be able to attend any of the courses or symposia taking place on that day. You will be asked to select a main course or symposia each day so that you can receive the related syllabi.

Registration and Housing for the Annual Meeting will open in December.

For more information, please visit www.aats.org/annual-meeting.

2015 AATS Grant Writing Workshop

March 6, 2015, Bethesda, MD

Organized by the AATS Scientific Affairs and Government Relations Committee, the 2015 AATS Grant Writing Workshop will take place on **Friday, March 6, 2015**, at the Doubletree Bethesda in Bethesda, MD (9 miles from Washington, DC). This full-day program is designed for all levels of academic cardiothoracic surgeons interested in applying for grants.

The workshop will provide attendees with a better understanding of the complex nature of preparing and submitting grant proposals along with the techniques required to ensure submissions are of the highest quality. Through a didactic session, interactive panel discussions and a mock study session, attendees will work with well-known leaders in cardiothoracic surgery and NIH Staff to achieve the following:

• Create career development and training grants

- Analyze outcomes research and clinical research networks
- Assess the structure and components of a grant
- Identify extramural program and funding opportunities— NCI and NHLBI
- Understand the steps to becoming an NIH investigator

The deadline for registration is **Friday**, **February 6**, **2013**. For additional information on the workshop program, housing, and to register, please visit www.aats.org.

2015 AATS Leadership Academy Applications

Friday, April 24, 2015, Seattle, WA For current and future CTS Division Chiefs/Department Chairs (Immediately prior to the AATS Annual Meeting)

The 2015 AATS Leadership Academy is an intensive, didactic, and interactive program for up to 20 surgeons who have demonstrated significant promise as potential future division chiefs or who have recently assumed the role of division chief. The goal of this program is to provide participants with the administrative, interpersonal, mentoring, and negotiating skills necessary to serve successfully as a division chief while also offering an opportunity to network with well-known thoracic surgical leaders who might subsequently serve as personal mentors after the conclusion of the program.

For additional information regarding the Academy, please visit www.aats.org. Interested applicants should meet the following qualifications before applying:

- Achieved the rank of Associate Professor
- Active/successful clinical surgeon
- Evidence of local institutional and/or state/regional leadership ability
- Evidence of academic productivity including peerreviewed publications and presentations at regional or national scientific meetings
- Funded research is preferable but not essential

Applications for consideration must be submitted electronically at www.aats.org by **November 30, 2014**. Participants will be selected by the Leadership Academy Committee and notified no later than February 5, 2015.

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Journals

Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Readers who found the articles in this issue interesting may also like to read these papers that can be found in recent and future issues of our sister publications, Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery!