The American Association for Thoracic Surgery

Annual Meeting Notes

The Eighty-second Annual Meeting of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery took place at the Washington, DC, Convention Center in Washington, DC, from May 5 through May 8, 2002, and was attended by almost 2500 professionals from all corners of the world. Total attendees exceeded 4500. The Annual Meeting was recorded for Webcast presentation, which is available for viewing through November 2002. The Webcast can be accessed through the AATS site at www.aats.org. The meetings have also been preserved on CD-Rom, and CDs are available either by specialty or as a complete set through the Association’s offices or on the Web site.

On Saturday, May 4, 2002, the AATS presented “Developing the Academic Surgeon—A Symposium,” which was co-chaired by Ralph J. Damiano, Jr, MD, and Larry R. Kaiser, MD. Sunday, May 5, 2002, featured three specialty symposia, all of which featured distinguished faculty members and guests. The General Thoracic Surgery Symposium was chaired by G. Alexander Patterson, MD, the Adult Cardiac Surgery Symposium was chaired by Hartzell V. Schaff, MD, and the Congenital Heart Disease Symposium was chaired by Constantine Mavroudis, MD. Research forums on General Thoracic, Cardiopulmonary, and Cardiac Surgery were also conducted on Sunday afternoon.

On Sunday evening, the AATS hosted the annual Graham Education and Research Foundation reception, honoring the 2002 Graham Education and Research Foundation awardees, as well as the 2002 award recipients from the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education. The Graham Foundation awardees for 2002 were this year’s Traveling Fellow, Cliff K. C. Choong, MD, of Auckland, New Zealand, and two Alton Ochsner Research Scholars, Yolonda L. Colson, MD, of Brigham & Women’s Hospital, and Michael S. Mulligan, MD, of the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Social events were very well attended, and the Association was most grateful to Local Arrangements Chairs Dr and Mrs Robert B. Wallace. Tuesday evening’s attendee reception was held at the Smithsonian Institution. As in past years, the social events schedule commenced with a well-attended Welcoming Reception in the Exhibit Hall. The Association extends its sincere thanks to the Wallaces for their superb work in developing an interesting and varied social program.

Dr Timothy J. Gardner presented his Presidential Address, “Our Heritage and Our Future,” on Monday, May 6, 2002. Dr Gardner received high praise from his peers for his insightful review of the history of the specialty and the challenges that face the cardiothoracic surgery community. This year’s featured speakers were Steven A. Rosenberg, MD, who presented the Basic Science Lecture on “The Immune Response to Human Cancer: Lessons from the Molecular Analysis of Patients With a Dramatic Response to Immunotherapy,” and Honored Speaker Professor and the 1974 Evarts A. Graham Fellow, Marc R. de Leval of London, who presented a talk on “Beyond Flatland.”

On Tuesday morning, May 7, the fifth annual C. Walton Lillehei Residents’ Forum was held, and this year’s winner was Subhasis Chatterjee, MD, of the University of Pennsylvania, who received a $5000 award for his presentation of “Viral Gene Transfer of the Anti-Apoptotic Factor ARC Protects Against Postischemic Heart Failure.”

Tuesday afternoon saw the Association’s annual Cardiothoracic Residents’ Luncheon, which was once again well-attended. Over 150 residents had the opportunity to enjoy fine food and stimulating discussion with leaders in the cardiothoracic field.

At its Annual Executive Session, the members of the Association elected the following officers for 2002-2003:, Fred A. Crawford, Jr, MD, President; Joel D. Cooper, MD, Vice President; Tirone E. David, MD, Secretary; Irving L. Kron, MD, Secretary-Elect; Richard A. Jonas, MD, Treasurer. Dr Timothy J. Gardner succeeded Dr James L. Cox to a 1-year term on the Council, and David J. Sugarbaker, MD, was named to a 4-year term on the Council.

There was an amendment to the Association’s by-laws, which added to the composition of the Council by creating a position of President-Elect.

The Eighty-third Annual Meeting of the Association will take place from May 4 through May 7, 2003, at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts. The deadline for abstract submissions was October 18, 2002.

At next year’s Annual Meeting, the following new members will be introduced to the membership of the Association:

Active Members

Gianni D. Angelini, Bristol, United Kingdom
Ko Bando, Osaka, Japan
Thomas A. Burdon, Stanford, Calif
K. Mammen Cherian, Madras, India
Thomas A. D’Amico, Durham, NC
Joseph A. Dearani, Rochester, Minn
Gilles D. Dreyfus, London, United Kingdom
J. William Gaynor, Philadelphia, Pa
A. Marc Gillinov, Cleveland, Ohio
Keith A. Horvath, Chicago, Ill
Terushisa Kazui, Hamamatsu, Japan
Walter Klepetko, Vienna, Austria
Martin H. McMullan, Jackson, Miss
Dan M. Meyer, Dallas, Tex
Announcements

Mark B. Ratcliffe, San Francisco, Calif
Bruce R. Rosengard, Philadelphia, Pa
Joseph B. Shrager, Philadelphia, Pa
R. Sudhir Sundaresan, Chicago, Ill
James S. Tweddell, Milwaukee, Wis
Hugo K. I. Vanermen, Aalst, Belgium
Walter Weder, Zurich, Switzerland
Randall K. Wolf, Columbus, Ohio

Honorary Member

Marc R. de Leval, London, United Kingdom

Tirone E. David, MD,