

Announcements

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Graham Traveling Fellowship, 2004-2005

STIPEND \$75,000

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Everts A. Graham Memorial Traveling Fellowship was established in 1951 by The American Association for Thoracic Surgery. Administered through the Graham Educational Research Foundation Fellowship grants support study by young cardiothoracic surgeons from outside North America at sites of their choice within North America and include travel between sites. Goals of the program are to broaden overall training and increase international contacts. Each Fellow should plan to have one primary center for his/her activities where he/she should spend from six to nine months. The Fellow should have identified an individual at that center who will act as his/her sponsor and assist in planning the course of study at the host institution and at other institutions. In addition to the primary center, the Fellow is encouraged to plan to spend shorter periods of time at other secondary centers to enhance the Fellowship experience.

Awards are made to surgeons of unique promise who have been regarded as having the potential for later international thoracic surgical leadership. Since the inception of the Graham Fellowship, 50 young surgeons from 27 countries have completed the Fellowship.

The Fellowship provides a stipend of \$75,000, a major portion of which is intended for traveling expenses incurred when visiting other medical centers. The Fellowship also provides two round-trip coach air fares from the recipient's country to his/her primary center. The dates of the beginning and ending of the Fellowship year should be scheduled to coincide with the Annual Meeting of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery in Toronto in April 2004. The Fellow will be introduced at this meeting and his/her predecessor will give a report of his/her year's experience to the Plenary Session. The Fellow will be expected to present a summary of his/her year's experience at the 2004 Annual Meeting,

which will take place at the Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, California, April 2-6, 2005.

The Fellow should become involved predominantly with observation, consultation, teaching, and research at a variety of thoracic surgical training centers during the twelve months. Patient contact will be determined by the sponsoring surgeon and will conform to the regulations and licensing requirements of the state, province, or country in which he/she is studying. A candidate should have completed his/her formal training in general surgery and in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, but he/she should not have reached a senior position. Candidates must be sufficiently proficient in English to realize the full benefits of the Fellowship. Candidates should not have received significant training in North America prior to making application for this award.

Applications for the Fellowship are available from:
Irving L. Kron, MD, President
Graham Education and Research Foundation
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
USA
Telephone 978-927-8330; fax 978-524-8890

For additional information and to download an application, please visit the AATS Web site at: www.aats.org/academic/fellowships.

Completed applications must be returned no later than **July 1, 2003**. The selected candidate will be notified by **December 15, 2003**.

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Second John Alexander Research Scholarship, 2004-2006

STIPEND \$50,000 PER YEAR

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery announces the AATS Second John Alexander Research Scholarship to provide an opportunity for research, training, and experience for a North American surgeon committed to pursuing an academic career in cardiothoracic surgery. The scholarship will be funded by the Association and administered by the Graham Education and Research Foundation.

The research program must be undertaken within the first three years after completion of an approved cardiothoracic residency. Applications for the scholarship may be submitted during the candidate's final year of cardiothoracic residency or during his or her first two years in an academic position. The duration of the scholarship is to be two years.

The yearly stipend shall be \$50,000 paid to the host institution. In addition, a grant of \$5,000 per year shall be made for support of research supplies, travel, and other legitimate academic expenses of the scholar. Applications for the scholarship are available from the Secretary of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery. The application will consist of three components:

1. The candidate must submit a proposal for the research to be undertaken and a statement of career plans and how the research activity will relate to the candidate's academic career.
2. The Director of the laboratory in the institution at which the research will be performed shall submit an endorsement of the proposal and indicate the facilities and degree of support available for the candidate's research.

3. The Chair of the candidate's department shall submit his or her endorsement of the proposal and indicate the willingness of the institution to provide an academic appointment for the candidate upon completion of the scholarship.

The application and its three components shall be submitted to the Secretary of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery by July 1, 2003. Announcement of the award will be made by the President of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery by December 15, 2003. The Scholarship will begin July 1, 2004. Following completion of the two-year program the scholar shall submit a written report of his/her research activities to the membership of the Association. In May 2007 the Scholar shall present a five-minute report of his/her experience at the Plenary Session of the AATS annual meeting.

Applications for the scholarship are available from:

Irving L. Kron, MD, Secretary
The American Association for Thoracic Surgery
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
978-927-8330; fax 978-524-8890

Applications may be downloaded from the AATS Web site at: <http://www.aats.org/research/grants>.

Announcement of 2004 Annual Meeting

The Eighty-fourth Annual Meeting of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery will be held April 25-28, 2004, in Toronto, Canada, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The meeting of the Association is open to all physicians. House Officers and Fellows will be admitted without payment of a registration fee upon presentation of a letter from their Chief of Service either during pre-registration or at the time of registration. Nonmember physicians will be required to pay a \$250 registration fee. Members, nonmember physicians, and invited speakers will have the privilege of discussing papers.

Requests for Preregistration Forms and Hotel Reservations

Information on the 2004 Annual Meeting, including registration, hotel accommodations, and the social program, will be available in January 2004. Requests should be forwarded directly to:

American Association for Thoracic Surgery
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890
e-mail: aats@prri.com

Registration and hotel information will be available on our Web site at aats.org.

Call for Abstracts

Authors submitting abstracts for the 2004 Annual Meeting must use electronic submission. Abstracts submitted electronically for consideration for presentation at the 2004 meeting must be received on or before **October 10, 2003**. Abstracts received after the deadline will not be considered by the Program Committee. The work must not have been presented or reported elsewhere.

Electronic Submission

Deadline for submission is **October 10, 2003**. Please submit your abstract via the World Wide Web. All abstract submissions must be in the structured format as required by *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. The structured abstract is to contain the following major headings: *Objective(s)*, *Methods*, *Results*, and *Conclusions*, and it should clearly reflect the content of the completed paper. No reference should be made on the abstract to the names or institutions of the authors.

Receipt of each abstract will be acknowledged by e-mail, fax, or mail. Notification of the decision of the Program Committee will be distributed by January 9, 2004.

Essayists selected for the program are reminded that papers presented at the meeting are to be submitted for consideration for publication to *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and must be handed to the Chair immediately prior to their presentation.

C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum

The C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum will be held on Tuesday morning, April 27, 2004. Made possible through an educational grant from St Jude Medical, the Forum will consist of the presentation of original work by residents in thoracic surgical training programs around the world. Abstracts submitted for the award should follow the guidelines of abstract submission for electronic submission noted above. The abstracts submitted for consideration for this Forum will be evaluated by the Program Committee and eight will be selected for presentation during the forum. Each of the selected authors will receive round-trip

travel and accommodations for the duration of the AATS annual meeting. Additionally, one presentation will be selected by the Program Committee to receive the AATS C. Walton Lillehei Residents' Award, a \$5000 prize. Thoracic Surgery Program Directors are urged to have their residents participate in this Forum.

Abstract Deadlines—Abstracts received after the deadline will not be considered

Electronic Submission Only: October 10, 2003

Applications for Membership

Applications for membership in the Association must be received by the Membership Committee Chairman no later than October 3, 2003. Applications received after that date will be deferred automatically for consideration until the 2005 meeting.

Applicants must be sponsored by three Active or Senior Members of the Association who are not members of the Membership Committee. Requests for membership applications may be sent to:

Chairman, Membership Committee
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890
e-mail: aats@prri.com

Tirone E. David, MD, Secretary

The Western Thoracic Surgical Association

Announcement of 2003 Annual Meeting

The Twenty-ninth Annual Meeting of The Western Thoracic Surgical Association will be held June 18-21, 2003, at La Costa Resort and Spa in Carlsbad, California. The scientific sessions are open to all duly qualified physicians. Participation in other Association activities for members, invited guests, and program participants will require payment of a social registration fee.

Requests for Meeting Information

Meeting preregistration and hotel registration forms are available from:

The Western Thoracic Surgical Association
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890
wtsa@prri.com

The American Board of Thoracic Surgery

Notices

The part I (written) examination will be held at the Radisson Hotel O'Hare, Rosemont, Chicago, Illinois, on November 23, 2003. The closing date for registration is August 1, 2003. Those wishing to be considered for examination must request an application since it is not automatically sent.

To be admissible for the Part II (oral) examination, a candidate must have successfully completed the Part I (written) examination.

A candidate applying for admission to the certifying examination must fulfill all the requirements of the Board in force at the time the application is received. Please address all communications to the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, One Rotary Center, Suite 803, Evanston, IL 60201 (telephone: 847-475-1520).

Requirements for Recertification/Maintenance of Certification in 2003

Diplomates of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery who plan to participate in the Recertification/Maintenance of Certification process in 2003 must hold an active medical license and must hold clinical privileges in thoracic surgery. In addition, a valid certificate is an absolute requirement for entrance into the recertification/maintenance of certification process. If your certificate has expired, the only pathway for renewal of a certificate is to take and pass the Part I (written) and the Part II (oral) certifying examinations.

The American Board of Thoracic Surgery will no longer publish the names of individuals who have not recertified in the American Board of Medical Specialties directories. The Diplo-

mate's name will be published upon successful completion of the recertification/maintenance of certification process.

The CME requirements include 70 Category I credits in either cardiothoracic surgery or general surgery earned during the 2 years prior to application. SESATS and SESAPS are the only self-instructional materials allowed for credit. Category II credits are not allowed. The Physicians Recognition Award for recertifying in general surgery is not allowed in fulfillment of the CME requirements. Interested individuals should refer to the 2003 *Booklet of Information* for a complete description of acceptable CME credits.

Diplomates should maintain a documented list of their major cases performed during the year prior to application for recertification. This practice review should consist of 1 year's consecutive major operative experiences. If more than 100 cases occur in 1 year, only 100 should be listed.

Candidates for recertification/maintenance of certification will be required to complete all sections of the SESATS self-assessment examination. It is not necessary for candidates to purchase SESATS individually because it will be sent to candidates after their application has been approved.

Diplomates may recertify the year their certificate expires, or if they wish to do so, they may recertify up to 2 years before it expires. However, the new certificate will be dated 10 years from the date of expiration of their original certificate or most recent recertification certificate. In other words, recertifying early does not alter the 10-year validation.

Recertification/maintenance of certification is also open to Diplomates with an unlimited certificate and will in no way affect the validity of their original certificate.

The deadline for submission of applications for the recertification/maintenance of certification process is May 10 each year. A brochure outlining the rules and requirements for recertification/maintenance of certification in thoracic surgery is available upon request from the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, One Rotary Center, Suite 803, Evanston, IL 60621; telephone number: 847-475-1520; fax: 847-475-6240; e-mail: abts_everanston@msn.com. The booklet is also published on the Web site: www.abts.org.