ANNUAL REPORT

Funding research and education today to improve the practice of tomorrow

2019

THE THORACIC SURGERY FOUNDATION
The mission of The Thoracic Surgery Foundation is to foster the development of surgeon-scientists in cardiothoracic surgery; increasing knowledge and innovation to benefit patient care.

The Foundation is the charitable arm of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons.
Dear Colleagues, Patients, and Friends:

It has been my privilege to serve as President of The Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF) for the past year. This time has afforded me the opportunity to learn and experience first-hand the generosity of the members of our specialty in supporting the Foundation’s research and education initiatives.

2019 was a great year for the Foundation. More than $1 million was awarded to 109 surgeons for grants and scholarships. The Foundation’s established role as The Society of Thoracic Surgeon’s charitable arm has strengthened our fundraising potential and covered our administrative costs, enabling us to have a greater impact with our mission.

I am so grateful to you, our wonderful donors, who make everything we do possible. From exemplary patient care to groundbreaking research to educating the next generation of cardiothoracic leaders, you are the heart and soul of all our endeavors.

TSF is truly YOUR Foundation. Research grants, fellowships, and educational scholarships from TSF represent all of our disciplines (cardiac, general thoracic, and congenital) and surgeons at all career stages. The Foundation’s awards have been instrumental in developing hundreds of young surgeons by providing the support needed for their career advancement. These awards also have been important stepping stones in furthering innovation in cardiothoracic surgery.

If you have not given to the Foundation recently, I urge you to consider doing so now. And, if you generously donated in 2019, please consider another gift at this time. Let’s make 2020 TSF’s best year yet. You can click here or anywhere on the bottom of each page to make an online donation. Your generosity will help us ensure a bright future for surgeon-scientists and excellent care for our patients.

Thank you for your continued support of TSF.

Joseph E. Bavaria, MD, FRCS(Ed)
2019–2020 TSF President
RESEARCH AWARDS

TSF RESEARCH AWARD
This award provides operational support of original research efforts by cardiothoracic surgeons who have completed their formal training and who are seeking initial support and recognition for the research program. Awards of up to $40,000 per year for up to 2 years are granted to support the work of early career cardiothoracic surgeons (within 7 years of first faculty appointment at the time of application deadline).

STS RESEARCH AWARD
This award provides operational support of original research efforts by cardiothoracic surgeons who have completed their formal training and who are seeking initial support and recognition for the research program. Awards of up to $40,000 per year for up to 2 years are granted to support the work of early career cardiothoracic surgeons (within 7 years of first faculty appointment at the time of application deadline). The STS Research Award designation is given to the highest-ranking research application awarded by TSF based on merit as judged by a rigorous peer-review process.

NINA STARR BRAUNWALD RESEARCH AWARD
Nina Starr Braunwald, MD, was the first woman to be certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS) and to perform open heart surgery. This award in her name provides operational support of original research efforts by women cardiac surgeons who have completed their formal training and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. Awards of up to $40,000 per year for up to 2 years are made annually to support the work of early career female cardiac surgeons (within 5 years of first faculty appointment).

NINA STARR BRAUNWALD RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD
This award supports up to $30,000 per year for up to 2 years for a female resident working in a cardiac surgical clinic or laboratory research program who has not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training.

STSA RESIDENT RESEARCH AWARD
This award provides up to $30,000 per year for up to 2 years to support a research fellowship for a resident who has not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training. During the fellowship, the resident will work in a cardiothoracic surgery clinical or laboratory research program. Membership in the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA) is not required; however, applicants must meet STSA membership eligibility requirements.

EDUCATION AWARDS

ADVANCED ROBOTIC CARDIAC SURGERY FELLOWSHIP
This award provides $25,000 to a surgeon and his/her institution to support and facilitate the successful initiation of a high-quality robotic cardiac surgery program at his/her home institution. Extra consideration will be given to the applicant and first assistant if they have attended an STS Workshop on Robotic Cardiac Surgery. They also must meet specific requirements confirming institutional support and resources and have experience performing mitral valve repair and replacement and/or have significant off-pump coronary artery bypass experience. This fellowship is supported by the generosity of Intuitive.

CAROLYN E. REED TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP AWARD
Carolyn E. Reed, MD, was a cardiothoracic surgeon, educator, and successful researcher who died while still in her prime. She served as the first female chair of ABTS and also was president of STSA and STS (posthumously). This award in her name provides support of up to $10,000 for a clinically established female cardiothoracic surgeon or female resident in her last year of cardiothoracic surgery residency for travel to another institution for the purpose of learning a new skill or technology.

MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON FELLOWSHIP AWARD
Michael J. Davidson, MD, was an outstanding cardiothoracic surgeon and teacher who was murdered in January 2015 at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. The tragedy profoundly affected the cardiothoracic community and brought to light Dr. Davidson’s achievements in mastering sophisticated catheter skills and advocating for a future that would meld the cardiac catheterization lab with the operating theater. This award in his name provides annual support of $25,000 for a deserving young early career cardiothoracic surgeon (within 7 years of first faculty appointment at the time of application deadline) committed to the vision of innovative and collaborative cardiovascular care that Dr. Davidson helped pioneer.
ROBERT L. REPLOGLE TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Robert L. Replogle, MD, was a talented pediatric cardiac surgeon, as well as educator, researcher, and national leader in cardiothoracic surgery. The purpose of the Replogle Fellowship is to facilitate the continuing education of deserving young faculty surgeons or residents committed to the treatment of congenital heart disease in neonates, infants, children, and adults. The award is intended for travel to another institution for the purpose of learning a novel technique, adapting innovative technology, and/or fostering collaboration among surgical investigators in order to further the progress of congenital heart surgery at the recipient’s home institution. This award in Dr. Replogle’s name provides support of up to $10,000 for up to 4 weeks for early career congenital heart surgeons who are within 7 years of ACGME-accredited congenital heart surgery fellowship completion (or its equivalent).

SARNS TERUMO PERFUSION EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP AWARD

The purpose of the Sarns Terumo Perfusion Education Fellowship Award is to facilitate the continuing education of a deserving board-certified perfusionist who is committed to expanding cardiovascular perfusion education and knowledge. This $10,000 award will support travel to another institution for the purpose of learning unique techniques, simulation approaches, and innovative technology to improve care for cardiothoracic surgery patients at the recipient’s home institution. This fellowship is supported by the generosity of Terumo and Rich and Norma Sarns.

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

ALLEY-SHERIDAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Ralph D. Alley, MD, was a Founder Member of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons and served as its 1975–1976 president. David Sheridan was an inventor and close friend of Dr. Alley, who held more than 50 patents for innovations that have improved health care. Moved by his collaborator and friend’s commitment to cardiothoracic surgery, Sheridan created the Alley-Sheridan Fund, two educational opportunities for cardiothoracic surgeons. The Leadership Program in Health Policy Management provides scholarships of $2,500 towards the cost of tuition to attend the leadership program at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. Additionally, TSF supports scholarships of $2,500 towards the cost of tuition to attend the Surgeons as Educators Course hosted by the American College of Surgeons.

LEVI WATKINS INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Levi Watkins, MD, was an accomplished cardiothoracic surgeon and social activist at The Johns Hopkins Medical Center who made medical history by working with innovative physicians and engineers to implant the first automated internal cardiac defibrillator in a human being. The scholarship supports travel to a center of excellence for the purposes of acquiring clinical, translational, or leadership training to enhance skills and practice in an area of innovation or surgical significance. This award in Dr. Watkins’s name provides support of up to $5,000 for up to 2 weeks for cardiothoracic surgeons who are within 10 years of first faculty appointment.

SURGICAL OUTREACH AWARDS

TSF EVERY HEARTBEAT MATTERS AWARD

The Foundation, through the generosity and philanthropy of the Edwards Lifesciences Foundation, offers support of up to $37,500 for qualified surgeons with proven track records of volunteer experience conducting charity work for underserved regions/populations. Awards are designed to provide support for sustainable programs that educate, screen, and/or treat underserved populations to reduce the global burden of heart valve disease or other programs that advance health care and address underserved populations.

TSF TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

These awards of $1,000 provide cardiothoracic surgeons who treat underserved patients and demonstrate a financial need with the opportunity to attend the STS/EACTS Latin America Cardiovascular Surgery Conference. Underserved people are those who have a health disparity as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and lack awareness of, or access to, medically appropriate health care. These scholarships are made possible by the Edwards Lifesciences Foundation and W.L. Gore & Associates.

TSF INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP

TSF, through the generosity and philanthropy of the Edwards Lifesciences Foundation, offers travel scholarships of $2,500 for qualified cardiothoracic surgery residents and early career cardiothoracic surgeons (within 7 years of CT surgery residency completion) who wish to gain a global cardiothoracic surgery volunteer experience under the mentorship of experienced surgeon volunteers. TSF International Medical Volunteer Scholars will have the opportunity to join an Every Heartbeat Matters Award mission trip.
TSF Research Awards support academic and research career development for future leaders in cardiothoracic surgery. These awards identify, promote, and fund talented young cardiothoracic surgeons and residents working to create the future of our specialty through research and innovation. This year, the Foundation funded $600,000 in research awards supporting projects in topics as diverse as improving the outcomes of heart transplantation through the induction of tolerance and mitochondrial transplantation, the use of artificial intelligence/machine learning for echocardiogram interpretation and risk stratification, and cell transfer as a therapy for lung cancer. These and other innovative projects funded by TSF will have a profound impact in our specialty and improve the care of our patients.

These grants are funded through the contributions of hundreds of cardiothoracic surgeons and corporations. Their philanthropy and generosity allow these outstanding researchers to implement their ideas and launch their careers. Since its inception, TSF has been able to provide the initial funding support that has allowed multiple cardiothoracic surgeons to attract larger grants from the NIH, the NSF, and other agencies.

Members of the TSF Research Committee are experts in the field of cardiothoracic surgery research. They spent innumerable hours reviewing, scoring, and discussing the applications. I’d like to recognize their selfless efforts and dedication to promoting cardiothoracic surgery research and the careers of the future leaders in the specialty.

I’d also like to congratulate the 2019 TSF Research Award recipients, who are acknowledged in this report, and express my most profound gratitude to the donors, members of the Research Committee, and the Foundation as a whole, for the privilege and honor to serve as the Research Committee Chair.

Juan A. Crestanello, MD
2019 TSF Research Chair

TSF RESEARCH AWARDS COMMITTEE

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Dennis A. Wigle, MD
Berhane Worku, MD
Bo Yang, MD, PhD
Sai S. Yendamuri, MD
Joseph B. Zwischenberger, MD
“I am very grateful to TSF for its support. Funding through TSF has provided me not only with the means to develop my lab, but also the important external validation of my research program. This award will be vital towards generating data used for future applications to national funding agencies.”

Jonathan C. Yeung, MD, PhD
University of Toronto, Canada
STS Research Award, $80,000
Personalizing Therapy for Esophageal Adenocarcinoma using Patient Derived Cancer Organoids

“I am grateful for the TSF Research Award. The funding allowed me to explore the utility of machine learning in clinical risk prediction in cardiac surgery.”

Arman Kilic, MD
University of Pittsburgh, PA
TSF Research Award, $80,000
Evaluating the Predictive Utility of Machine Learning Algorithms in Adult Cardiac Surgery

“This grant has enabled us to understand and learn how to use patient preferences when choosing a post-operative anticoagulation drug for new-onset atrial fibrillation. Through this work, we continue to aspire to look at the whole patient and his/her goals for quality of life.”

Philicia Moonsamy, MD
Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
Nina Starr Braunwald Research Fellowship Award, $30,000
Trial of a Novel Oral Anticoagulant vs. Warfarin in New Onset Atrial Fibrillation after Cardiac Surgery

“I am very grateful to TSF for supporting my research in implementing patient-reported outcomes to improve the quality of thoracic surgical care. This award will allow me to pursue an independent research program in optimizing patient-centered outcomes after high-risk surgery.”

Gita Mody, MD, MPH
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
TSF Research Award, $80,000
Improving Lung Cancer Surgery Using Patient-Centered Outcomes
“The support from TSF has given me the invaluable opportunity to launch my research career as a translational scientist and further explore the mechanisms underlying neurodevelopmental delays in children with congenital heart disease. I am so grateful for the support of TSF and look forward to continuing my research activities at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia in the year ahead.”

Mallory L. Hunt, MD
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Nina Starr Braunwald Research Fellowship Award, $60,000
A Novel Assessment of the Effects of Chronic Hypoxia on Brain Development in Utero: Utilizing a Fetal Sheep Model to Identify Clinically Translatable Targets for the Treatment of Congenital Heart Disease

“Amine Mazine, MD
University of Toronto, Canada

TSF Resident Research Fellowship Award, $60,000
Generation of Human Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Left Ventricular Cardiomyocytes for the Treatment of Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome

“We are using the TSF award to elucidate the genetic and epigenetic characteristics of large cell lung cancer, a rare but lethal form of non-small cell lung cancer. Our ultimate hope is to use these data to compile a TCGA (genomic atlas) for large cell lung cancer and identify prognostic biomarkers and targets for novel therapies. We are immensely grateful to TSF for its generous gift that has enabled our work.”

Vignesh Raman, MD
Duke University, Durham, NC

TSF Resident Research Fellowship Award, $30,000
Elucidating the Genome of Large Cell Lung Neuroendocrine Cancer

“It is a great honor to receive the research award, and I am very grateful to TSF for its support of my research project. This award will allow me to design and upscale engineered vascular conduits that may impact the lives of millions of patients.”

Yuanjia Zhu, MD
Stanford University, California

TSF Resident Research Fellowship Award, $60,000
Bioengineered Autologous Cytokine-Eluting Arterialized Conduits using Tri-layered Cell Sheet Technology
“I am sincerely grateful for and honored by the support of TSF. This award affords me the opportunity to concentrate on building my research skillset during my surgical training. Specifically, I will work to establish a small-animal model of ex vivo lung perfusion with which to investigate and mitigate factors that contribute to primary graft dysfunction following transplantation. I hope this experience will ultimately lead to contributions that improve patient care.”

Laura M. Piechura, MD
Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, MA
TSF Resident Research Fellowship Award, $60,000
Targeting the Innate Immune System to Mitigate Primary Graft Dysfunction via Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion

“I am tremendously grateful to TSF/STSA and honored to accept this research award. It has been instrumental in allowing investigation of an implantable device to personalize chemotherapy during surgical resection of lung cancer.”

Lillian L. Tsai, MD
The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD
STSA Resident Research Award, $60,000
An Implantable Microdevice for Personalized Chemotherapy to Prevent Recurrence in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

“Being chosen for this award is truly meaningful and special to me. Not only do I hope to live up to the spirit of the award with my fellowship dedicated to TAVR and education, but also to Dr. Davidson’s memory. When I was finding the best place for me to embark upon a fellowship, I toured and interviewed at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. It was evident that Dr. Davidson was an amazing man and had a great impact upon that institution. I can only hope that my future career will live up to his expectations and provide a legacy for him that lives on, in part, due to my work.”

Aaron J. Spooner, MD
Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta, Canada
Michael J. Davidson Fellowship Award, $25,000
Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement

TSF AWARDS BY TYPE

TOTAL FUNDING $1,141,500

- Research $600,000
- Education $191,500
- Leadership $25,000
- Surgical Outreach $260,000
- Travel $65,000
“I am grateful to TSF for this amazing opportunity to enhance my career. The award has allowed me to lay the foundation for an adult pectus program. It can be difficult to introduce a new technique/procedure into your practice, especially when otherwise clinically busy. However, taking time to visit a center of excellence is incredibly important to your success. So often, we learn much more from watching an operation than in actually doing one. This was an opportunity to do just that. TSF has made this investment in me and my future.”

Leah M. Backhus, MD, MPH
Stanford University, California
Levi Watkins Innovation and Leadership Development Scholarship, $5,000
Pectus Repair Traveling Scholarship

“The mentorship and partnership that I have been fortunate to establish with Dr. Hanley and his colleagues through the Fellowship have undoubtedly extended and improved the surgical treatment of complex congenital cardiac lesions in my practice and at my institution. I am extremely grateful for the support of TSF for this opportunity.”

Damien J. LaPar, MD, MSC
Columbia University, New York City
Robert L. Replogle Traveling Fellowship Award, $10,000
Complex Pulmonary Artery Reconstruction and Unifocalization Surgical Fellowship

“I am truly grateful for the support provided by the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship Award which is allowing me the opportunity to work with and learn from Dr. Dawn Jaroszewski. She is a leader in the field of minimally invasive pectus repair, and I will learn more about her operative technique, as well as preoperative evaluation, management of complications, redo repairs, and postoperative management. As a junior attending who is working to build a robust thoracic surgery practice in an area where there previously was none, this one-on-one mentorship is invaluable!”

Crystal J. Erickson, MD
University of Colorado Health Memorial Hospital, Colorado Springs
Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship Award, $3,000
Pectus Excavatum Repair in the Adult Patient

“The Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship provided me with an unparalleled opportunity to visit one of the world’s premier research universities, Karolinska Institute, and learn about conducting the highest quality epidemiological research in esophageal disease.”

Monisha Sudarshan, MD
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship Award, $4,500
Launching an Esophageal Disease Epidemiology and Outcomes Program
“I am honored to be the recipient of the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship. I will use the award to support my travel to Duke University where I will work with Dr. Carmelo Milano and his team learning minimally invasive techniques for LVAD implantation, observe the workings of a large, successful heart transplant program, and more fully understand the union between basic and clinical science via translational research. This experience will prove to be formative in my career as I am currently a junior faculty member at the University of Wisconsin tasked with growing our institution’s heart transplant and mechanical circulatory support program.”

**Amy G. Fiedler, MD**  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
*Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship Award, $9,000*  
Cardiac Transplantation, Advanced Circulatory Support, and Translational Heart Failure Research

“I would like to express my sincere gratitude to TSF, Terumo, and the Sarns family for offering this fellowship to the perfusion profession. This opportunity allowed me to gain insight into the flourishing, innovative cardiac surgery program at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. Since the trip, my team has been able to implement tangible improvements and are continuing to refine our practice. I will carry this knowledge and pivotal experience with me throughout my career.”

**Ashleigh A. LeBlanc, CCP, FPP**  
Oregon Health & Science University Doernbecher Children’s Hospital, Portland  
*Sarns Terumo Perfusion Education Fellowship Award, $10,000*
TSF AWARD RECIPIENTS

ADVANCED ROBOTIC CARDIAC SURGERY FELLOWSHIP

George M. Comas, MD
St. John Clinic, Tulsa, OK

Tom C. Nguyen, MD
The University of Texas—Memorial Hermann, Houston

Matthew A. Romano, MD
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Phillip G. Rowse, MD
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Moritz C. Wyler von Ballmoos, MD, PhD, MPH
Houston DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center, TX

TSF EVERY HEARTBEAT MATTERS AWARD

$37,500

R. Morton “Chip” Bolman III, MD
University of Vermont, Burlington
“Advancing Cardiac Care for Rheumatic Heart Disease in Rwanda”

Jay D. Pal, MD
University of Colorado, Aurora
“Enhancing Access to Care and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease in Nepal”

$35,000

Adanna C. Akujuo, MD
Albany Medical Center, New York City
“VOOM Foundation Open-Heart Cardiac Surgery Program in Nigeria”

Lyle D. Joyce, MD, PhD
Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
“Meeting the Challenge of Rheumatic Valve Disease in Kenya”

Jeffrey D. McNeil, MD
Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeons, San Antonio, TX
“VOOM Foundation—Continued Development of Cardiac Surgery Program in Enugu, Nigeria”

Craig Selzman, MD
University of Utah Health, Salt Lake City
“Mongolia Cardiac Surgery Program”

Pranava Sinha, MD
Children’s National Health System, Washington, DC
“Management of Rheumatic Heart Disease in Uganda”

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP

$2,500

Castiglione M. Bhamidipati, DO, PhD
Oregon Health & Science University, Portland
“Enhancing Access to Care and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease in Nepal”

Jeffrey M. Erfe, MD
Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL
“Management of Rheumatic Heart Disease in Uganda”

Amy G. Fiedler, MD
University of Wisconsin, Madison
“Advancing Cardiac Care for Rheumatic Heart Disease in Rwanda”

Tyler J. Wallen, DO
University of Florida, Gainesville
“Meeting the Challenge of Rheumatic Valve Disease in Kenya”

$1,675

Yihan Lin, MD
University of Colorado, Aurora
“Advancing Cardiac Care for Rheumatic Heart Disease in Rwanda”

JaBaris D. Swain, MD
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
“Advancing Cardiac Care for Rheumatic Heart Disease in Rwanda”

The Advanced Robotic Cardiac Surgery Fellowship Awards are made possible by the generosity of

INTUITIVE
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Margarita T. Camacho, MD
RWJBarnabas Health at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, NJ

Elisabeth Dexter, MD
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center
Buffalo, NY

Christopher M. Genco, MD
Genesis Healthcare
Kennett Square, PA

Katherine B. Harrington, MD
Baylor Scott and White—The Heart Hospital Plano, TX

Si M. Pham, MD
Mayo Clinic Florida
Jacksonville

ALLEY-SHERIDAN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Danielle Gottlieb Sen, MD
Children’s Hospital of New Orleans/Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Vikas Sharma, MD
University of Utah
Salt Lake City

Karen Walker, MD
Baylor Scott and White—The Heart Hospital Plano, TX

SURGEONS AS EDUCATORS COURSE, AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Karen Kim, MD
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor

HelenMari L. Merritt Genore, DO
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha
TSF TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Supported by the generosity of W.L. Gore & Associates, Edward Lifesciences Foundation, and Joseph E. Bavaria, MD, FRCS(Ed), the following attended the 2019 STS/EACTS Latin America Cardiovascular Surgery Conference in Cancun, Mexico.

Pablo Anibal Alterini, MD
Parana, Argentina

Natalia Fernandes Alves, MD
Sao Paulo, Brazil

César Omar Avalos Gómez, MD
Puebla, Mexico

Gastón Bauk, MD
Córdoba, Argentina

Krishna Bhandari, MD
Kathmandu, Nepal

Enzo A. Borzellino, MD
Lima, Peru

Julio Cesar Castillo Garagate, MD
Lima, Peru

Guillermo E. Castro, MD
Tlalpan, Mexico

Annet Cazares, MD
Monterrey, Mexico

Suheidys De La Hoz Domínguez, MD
Barranquilla, Colombia

Kaylesh Jay Dullabh, MD
Polokwane, South Africa

Merari C. Escamilla, MD
Mexico City, Mexico

Debora Klein Ferreira, MD
Porto Alegre, Brazil

Gustavo A. Garcia Soto, MD
La Paz, Mexico

Ovidio A. Garcia-Villarreal, MD
Santa Catarina, Mexico

Mauricio Damian Gomez Gonzalez, MD
Ciudad de Mexico, Mexico

Blas Gonzalez, MD
Asuncion, Paraguay

Jorge A. Gonzalez, MD
Bogota, Colombia

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Pilar, Argentina

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Merida, Mexico

Karla Y. Herrera Morales, MD
Merida, Mexico

Mauro Ariel Higa, MD
La Plata, Argentina

Reynaldo J. Jiménez, MD
Chihuahua, Mexico

Luis R. Jimenez Hernandez, MD
Cuauhtemoc, Mexico

Prashant Kothari, MD
Jaipur, India

Rafael Albino Lencioni, MD
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Jorge Israel Leyva, MD
Miguel Hidalgo, Mexico

Aldo P. Lopez, MD
Torreon, Mexico

David Maldonado, MD
Guayaquil, Ecuador

Nestor J. Medeot, MD
Cordoba, Argentina
Maria A. Medina, MD  
Bogota, Colombia  

Khaled A. Mohammed, MD  
Assiut, Egypt  

Dagoberto Muñoz Serret, MD  
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  

Rubisela Najera Ramirez, MD  
Mexico City, Mexico  

Lorenzo Naranjo Tapia, MD  
Santiago, Chile  

Adrian Fernando Narvaez Munoz, MD  
Guayaquil, Ecuador  

Jorge Luis Navarro Alcoba, MD  
Mexico City, Mexico  

Diego B. Ortega Zhindón, MD  
Mexico City, Mexico  

Andres M. Palacio, MD  
Bogota, Colombia  

Emmanuel Peña Gomez Portugal, MD  
Pachuca Hidalgo, Mexico  

Henry Peralta Santos, MD  
Lima, Peru  

Carlos Jose Perez, MD  
Bogota, Colombia  

Juan J. Perez Arancibia, MD  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  

Gustavo Andres Prieto, MD  
Neiva, Colombia  

Oscar A. Prior, MD  
Tijuana, Mexico  

Rodrigo Reyes-Pavón, MD  
Aguascalientes, Mexico  

Francisco Mauricio Rincon Tello, MD  
Bogota, Colombia  

Josias C. Rios, MD  
Lima, Peru  

Aura Maria Rivera Herrera, MD  
Bogota, Colombia  

Carolina F. Rodrigues, MD  
Lisbon, Portugal  

Omar Alonso Rodriguez, MD  
Monterrey, Mexico  

Fidel F. Rojas Martinez, MD  
Lambayeque, Peru  

David Roldan Morales, MD  
Conkal, Mexico  

Max Salamanca, MD  
Lima, Peru  

Ignacio Salazar Hernandez, MD  
Mexico City, Mexico  

Fernando Fabián Sánchez, MD  
Obregon, Mexico  

Jennifer Andrea Sanchez Rojas, MD  
Bogota, Colombia  

Kuntal Mahavir Surana, MD  
Mumbai, India  

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Mexico City, Mexico  

Marybell Vasquez Miranda, MD  
Lima, Peru  

Raquel Vega Hernandez, MD  
Monterrey, Mexico  

Omar Victorica, MD  
Mexico City, Mexico  

Jose Yovera MD  
Lima, Peru  

Luis M. Zuniga, MD  
Managua, Nicaragua

TSF TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

SURGEON GRANTS

Individual Surgeon Grants Funded

Total Applications Received


301 59 135 203

43 47 59 203 301

46 17 22 50 59 109


thoracicsurgeryfoundation.org/donate

2019
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“TSF was instrumental in the development of me personally as a researcher. During my dedicated cardiac surgery research time at Emory University, the TSF research fellowship allowed me the latitude to concentrate on my research topic.”

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The mission of the Foundation is so important. The first part of the mission is to develop cardiothoracic surgeon-scientists. They will be the investigators who help us better understand the causes of and treatments for cardiothoracic disease and help us to provide better care in the future. The second part of the Foundation’s mission is to provide better patient care through four main avenues—research, education, global outreach, and innovation. In order for us to deliver better care in the future, it is important to support the people who are in training now, as well as support ongoing research efforts. This is an incredibly important part of what’s going to make our specialty better in the future.

WHY I GIVE: I have a personal reason for giving. It was my deep desire to give back to the Foundation that played such an important part in my own career. In 2005, I was a grateful recipient of a TSF grant that was cosponsored by NIH. This helped me develop the research skills I needed to create a research program focused on thoracic aortic disease and help launch my career. I can’t even begin to imagine what I’d be doing right now if I hadn’t received that initial grant in 2005. So contributing to the Foundation, both in terms of leadership and in giving donations to the Foundation, is an important way I can give back for everything that it’s done for me.
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The Foundation and the grants that it provides are so important for cardiothoracic surgery. The way that we make patient care better is through research and education. The role of TSF is to provide the funding for surgeon investigators and scientists to come up with new and better ways to perform surgery and take care of patients with cardiothoracic diseases. TSF gives younger surgeons who are trying to develop their careers as surgeon-scientists the opportunity to do that.

WHY I GIVE: As a community of cardiothoracic surgeons, it is incumbent on all of us to help the next generation. I personally feel not just the responsibility, but I see it as an opportunity to help the specialty advance by allowing younger surgeons a leg up to help us all take care of patients.

Just in the time that I’ve been in cardiac surgery, we are so much better now at taking care of patients. The reason is because of research that has been done. That research costs money. The ability of surgeons to take time in the lab and learn the skills that they need—someone needs to support that. We are the best people to provide that funding.

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