

January / February 2022

Candidate Connection



STS 2022's Virtual Transformation Enables Shared Experience

The STS 58th Annual Meeting begins in just 1 week! Since the Society's decision to transition STS 2022 to an all-virtual format for the health and safety of its attendees, faculty, exhibitors, and staff, new avenues have opened for attendees to participate in real time without the logistics of travel. [Watch a message from STS President Dr. Sean Grondin](#) who touches on how "talented speakers, faculty, and technology partners will help us deliver this high-quality and engaging virtual program." You're automatically registered—for free!—as part of your STS Candidate or Pre-Candidate membership. Check your email for details, learn more about [the program](#) and get ready to join the forum Saturday, January 29 and Sunday, January 30.

Get Your CV in the Hands of Hiring Managers at Career Fair

During STS 2022, you can participate in a virtual Career Fair, featuring a live chat portion that enables you to engage directly with top US health care employers on Saturday, January 29, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. ET. You'll also have the opportunity to visit employer booths and broaden your network. It's free to join and upload your CV, but you must [register in order to participate](#).

Download the STS Events App

Also, make sure to download the STS Events app from the Apple [App Store](#) or [Google Play store](#). The app allows registrants to:

- View the meeting program with full-text abstracts and speakers
- Create a personalized schedule
- Receive important meeting alerts and updates

Dr. Bartley Griffith Shares Details of Landmark Xenotransplantation

Following a successful transplant of a genetically modified pig heart into a patient with terminal heart disease, Dr. Bartley Griffith of the University of Maryland Medicine team shared insights with STS about the patient's history, the process of approval for xenotransplantation, cold perfusion and transportation, and the exhilaration shared by the team when the heart sprang back to life. [See the interview and transplant footage.](#)



Makoto Hibino Named Trainee Reviewer of the Year

The Annals of Thoracic Surgery relies on top-quality peer review to ensure that it continues to offer the finest scientific journalism in cardiothoracic surgery—and that includes insights from trainee members. This year, Dr. Makoto Hibino, from the University of Toronto and St. Michaels' Hospital in Toronto, Canada, was one of [four outstanding individuals recognized as Reviewer of the Year](#). “A detailed review takes time and thought, and these award winners have performed the most highly rated reviews this year,” said Dr. Joanna Chikwe, *Annals* Editor. You can volunteer your time and talent to *The Annals* by contacting theannals@sts.org.



STS Awards 60 Looking to the Future Scholarships

The 2022 [Looking to the Future \(LTTF\) Scholarship awardees](#) have been announced. These scholarship recipients represent the best and brightest general surgery residents and medical students, each with an interest in exploring a career in cardiothoracic surgery. More than 215 students and residents applied for the 2022 scholarships. Since the program's inception in 2006, the Society has awarded 725 scholarships.

Career Blog Article Offers Advice on Handling Bad Patient Outcomes

In "[Good Surgeons, Bad Outcomes: Dealing with Difficult Situations](#)," Dr. Betty Tong explains how falling into a "cycle of blame and shame" in the face of bad surgical outcomes is unhelpful for the patient, family, and surgeon—and she shares how owning the problem, checking egos, and learning from mistakes can help surgeons face difficult issues and work to make them right.

New Podcast Episodes Available on Your Favorite Listening Platforms

Catch up on the latest episodes in two STS podcast series, where surgeons and thought leaders share fascinating insights and compelling stories that provide hours of listening.

From **Same Surgeon, Different Light**:

- In a conversation with Dr. David Tom Cooke, [Dr. Jacques Kpodonu](#), from Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, reveals fascinating details about living in Paris and Ghana, his advocacy for global health equity, and of the influence of his father—Ghana’s first cardiologist, still active at 84 years old—who pushed him to “do something with the heart.”
- Dr. Tom Varghese interviews [Dr. Susan Moffatt-Bruce](#), Chief Executive Officer at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. This inspirational leader shares details about growing up in Canada with a dad who was part of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and a mom who was a nurse.
- Described as a leader extraordinaire, [Dr. Joseph Dearani](#) shares with Dr. Varghese reflections on his STS presidency and the most challenging aspects of leading the organization during the first 10 months of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Dr. David Tom Cooke interviews [Dr. Valerie Rusch](#), esteemed medical researcher and thoracic surgeon from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. Dr. Rusch reveals fascinating details about growing up in Manhattan with powerful lessons from her mother about being a strong woman. This counsel—along with a summer job as a surgical scrub tech—motivated Dr. Rusch to pursue a career in medicine.

From **The Resilient Surgeon**:

- Dr. Michael Maddaus interviews [Brian Ferguson](#), a former US Navy SEAL and CEO of Arena Labs. From start to finish, this conversation offers thought-provoking and inspiring information about human potential and becoming the best versions of ourselves.

[Browse the podcast library and start listening.](#)

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