



International Connection

STS 2022's Virtual Transformation Enables International Participation

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 across the globe. [Watch a message from STS President Dr. Sean Grondin](#) who touches on the "high quality, engaging" virtual program and shares how having "numerous international speakers and members present will spice up the flavor of the meeting." STS 2022 takes place next weekend, January 29-30. Learn more about [the program](#) and [register now](#).

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.](#)



Promising Surgeons from Italy and US Receive Practice-Changing Fellowships

Through a collaborative effort between STS and the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS), two standout young surgeons recently each received \$20,000 (€17,620) in fellowship grants to learn new techniques used by

institutions across the world. Dr. Gianluca Folesani from Sant'Orsola Malpighi Polyclinic in Bologna, Italy and Dr. Amy Fiedler from the University of Wisconsin at Madison were awarded the inaugural [Thoracic Surgery Foundation \(TSF\)/Francis Fontan Fund \(FFF\) International Traveling Fellowship](#). TSF and FFF are the charitable arms of STS and EACTS, respectively.



International Members Can Order Printed Copies of *The Annals*

Among the many career-enhancing benefits that STS membership offers is a subscription to *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*. Members outside North America receive an electronic subscription to the journal, but if you would like to receive printed copies, you can upgrade to a print plus digital subscription for only \$25 per year. To add printed *Annals* issues:

1. Log into the [STS Web Portal](#) and click on “Subscriptions.”
2. Find “*The Annals of Thoracic Surgery* – Hard Copy – 2022” and click “Details.”

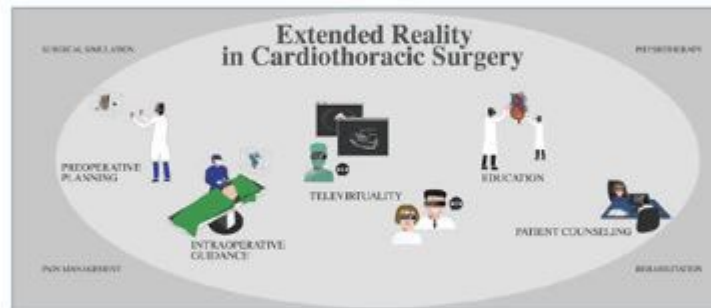
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A representation of current and future applications of extended reality (including virtual and augmented reality) in the field of cardiothoracic surgery. Recent developments in the field of extended reality have enabled clinical application of these exponential technologies for education, simulation, and pre- and intraoperative planning, and might potentially benefit perioperative management (such as pain management and physiotherapy) of cardiothoracic patients. Visual abstract from Sadeghi et al in this issue, pp. 681-691.



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**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 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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