

Purchase STS Annual Meeting Online

You can still experience the exceptional content from the STS 52nd Annual Meeting, held this past January, by [purchasing Annual Meeting Online](#). You can review sessions of special interest in the comfort of your home or office. You'll be able to experience presenter slide animation and full audio from the vast majority of sessions, including international sessions. Purchasers will receive unlimited access through January 31, 2017.

Update Your Profile

Stay up-to-date with Society mailings and information. If you change institutions, please remember to update your contact information—including name, address, phone number, and e-mail address—by [logging into your account](#). You can also send your information to membership@sts.org.

Pay Your Dues Online

If you haven't already paid your 2016 membership dues, [click here](#) to do so. Your STS membership represents an important investment in your career, as well as your specialty, and the Society values your participation. Pay your dues now to continue receiving future issues of *STS International Connection*, as well as a subscription to *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery* and discounted rates on STS educational events. Contact STS Member Services with questions at (312) 202-5800 or membership@sts.org.

**Increase Your Professional Standing—Submit an Abstract for STS Annual Meeting**

Abstract submission is under way for the STS 53rd Annual Meeting, January 21–25, 2017, in Houston, Texas. Submissions for scientific oral presentations, scientific posters, and surgical videos will be accepted until **Friday, June 10, 2016, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time**.

With more than 2,200 professional attendees from around the world, the [STS Annual Meeting](#) is the best forum for disseminating your work. Accepted presentations are printed in the official Annual Meeting *Abstract Book*, and corresponding manuscripts are to be submitted for publication consideration in *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, a world-renowned, peer-reviewed journal with an impact factor of 3.849. Visit www.sts.org/abstracts for directions on how to submit your abstract, and contact education@sts.org with any questions.

Submit a Proposal for Tech-Con 2017

After a successful first year, STS/AATS Tech-Con will again focus on cutting-edge technologies in cardiothoracic surgery that are not yet approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), but may be approved in 1-3 years. If you would like to present new technology under development or in use internationally, but not yet approved in the US, [submit a proposal](#). If you have questions, please contact education@sts.org. **The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, June 10, 2016, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.**

Visit STS at the ESTS Annual Meeting

Be sure to visit STS staff at this year's European Conference on General Thoracic Surgery in Naples, Italy, May 29-June 1. While there, encourage a colleague to complete an application for STS membership so that they can begin enjoying the Society's many member benefits, including discounted admission to the STS Annual Meeting and other educational activities. If he or she submits a completed application during the meeting, you'll both receive a special STS branded portable charger—*while supplies last*. The STS booth will be next to the ESTS booth in Sala C.

New Members Approved

A recent STS Bylaws change allows approval of Active and International Membership applicants three times per year, instead of only once per year. Per the revised Bylaws, the STS Board of Directors votes on pending Active and International Membership applications at each of its in-person meetings (January, Spring, and Fall). At the most recent meeting, the Board approved 45 surgeons, pending dues payment, including the following International Members:

Yves d'Udekem, Parkville, Australia
 Issam El Rassi, Beirut, Lebanon
 Vugar Gapagov, Ganja, Azerbaijan
 Gennady Khubulava, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
 Keita Kikuchi, Wuhan, China
 Gopi Nallaiyan, Madurai, India
 Matteo Pettinari, Genk, Belgium
 Guillermo Prado, Ixtapaluca, Mexico
 Anilton Rodrigues, Natal, Brazil
 Virendar Sarwal, Chandigarh, India
 Dong Xie, Shanghai, China
 Yang Yang, Shanghai, China
 Alexander Zotov, Moscow, Russian Federation
 Ali Nasr, Iowa City, IA
 Koji Takeda, New York, NY

The next application deadline is August 29, 2016, for Board approval on October 16, 2016. [Forward this e-mail](#) to your colleagues who are not yet STS members so they can [learn more and apply for membership today!](#)