

For Immediate Release

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## Mark S. Allen Named President of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons Mayo Clinic surgeon plans to enhance learning initiatives for the specialty

San Diego – Internationally recognized cardiothoracic surgeon Mark S. Allen, MD today was elected as President of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons during the organization's 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in San Diego.

"I am so proud and honored to be leading a group of such distinguished cardiothoracic surgeons," said Dr. Allen, Professor of Surgery at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and a consultant with the Division of General Thoracic Surgery at the Mayo Clinic. "STS is well respected among surgeons, government officials, and the public, and I look forward to making an impact on the future of our specialty."

Born in Pittsburgh, Dr. Allen received his undergraduate degree from Allegheny College in Meadville, Penn. He studied chemistry at The State University of New York Buffalo before attending medical school at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia, where he was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

Dr. Allen completed his internship and general surgery residency at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston before becoming chief resident for general surgery. He also completed his cardiothoracic surgery residency at MGH.

"As cardiothoracic surgeons, our commitment is to providing patients with the highest quality of care, which requires that we remain active in continuing our education and learning the newest techniques available," said Dr. Allen. "To keep STS at the forefront of medical education, I will spend my presidency working to promote and improve learning initiatives for not only residents and fellows but also practicing cardiothoracic surgeons."

A member of STS since 1991 and a longtime volunteer, Dr. Allen most recently served as STS First Vice President and continues as an editorial board member of *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, the official journal of STS and the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association.

In addition, Dr. Allen is a participant in the STS National Database, a world-renowned outcomes database that is the gold standard for clinical registries. "The STS National Database is a tremendous resource for all cardiothoracic surgeons, which I will continue to develop over the next year," he said.

Dr. Allen's clinical interests include esophageal surgery and pulmonary surgery.

He lives with his wife Patricia in Rochester, Minn. The couple has two sons, Patrick and Michael.

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To speak with Dr. Allen, contact Cassie McNulty at 312-202-5865 or <u>cmcnulty@sts.org</u>.

Founded in 1964, The Society of Thoracic Surgeons is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 6,900 cardiothoracic surgeons, researchers, and allied health care professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lung, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest. The Society's mission is to enhance the ability of cardiothoracic surgeons to provide the highest quality patient care through education, research, and advocacy.