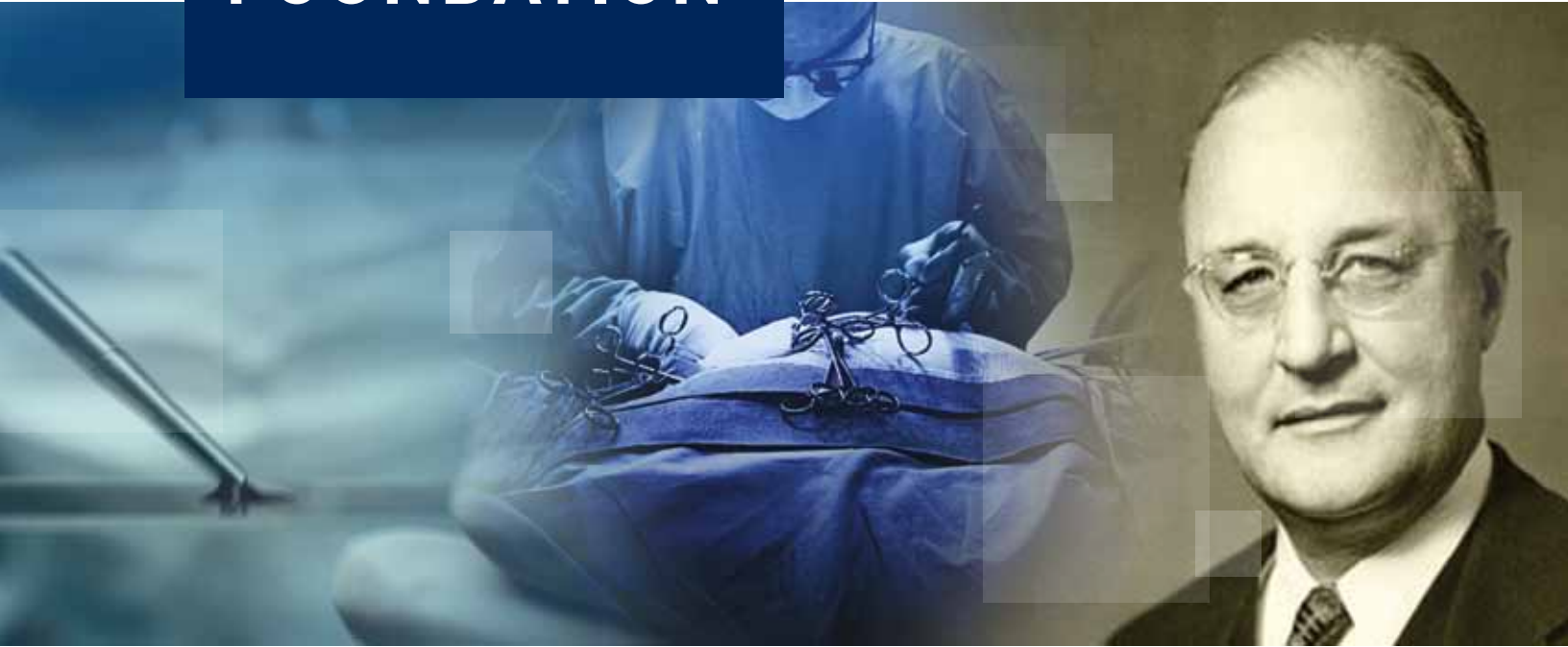


AATS
**GRAHAM
FOUNDATION**



1973-2013
40

YEARS OF SUPPORTING

Excellence!

DRIVING LEADERSHIP, LEARNING
AND INNOVATION IN THE PURSUIT
OF EXCELLENCE

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

Driving leadership, learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence.

VISION

We envision a dynamic and innovative future of continued excellence for cardiothoracic surgery.

THE AATS GRAHAM FOUNDATION VALUES

- **Academic Exchange:**
It is our past and our future
- **Innovation and Collaboration:**
Working together to advance and achieve our mission
- **Advancing Patient Care:**
Our cornerstone as physicians
- **Fostering Leadership:**
Maintaining excellence for future generations
- **Trusted Stewardship:**
Honoring our history and safeguarding our future

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Donate Today



David J. Sugarbaker, MD, President

The AATS Graham Foundation had an extraordinary year in 2013. The AATS Graham Foundation continued and expanded its efforts by awarding two AATS Research Scholarships to young faculty members, helping them launch their careers in academic cardiothoracic surgery. Each award was for \$80,000 per year for two years for a total of \$320,000.

The AATS Graham Foundation has moved forward by providing expanded support for educational and training efforts designed to expose our medical students, residents and young faculty to new educational opportunities within our specialty, including:

- A **Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigators Program** which will provide up to \$50,000 per year in funding for a period of up to three years for young CT surgeons to support their innovative or translational research projects. The Foundation has allocated \$250,000 to initiate this program.
- An **Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship Program** to provide finishing graduates an opportunity to expand their experience and training in cardiothoracic surgery by visiting others centers for a period of 4-6 weeks. The F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship has been funded as the first in a series of these awards.
- A **Robotics Fellowship in General Thoracic Surgery**, in conjunction with Intuitive Surgical, to provide an on-site experience for eight young surgeons and their attendings to train in robotic techniques in general thoracic surgery.
- An **Advanced Treatments of Valve Disease Fellowship**, sponsored by Edwards Lifesciences, will provide surgeons opportunities at host institutions to gain expertise in advanced treatments of valve disease such as mitral and aortic valve repair, and transcatheter techniques for repair or replacement of all valves.

Initiatives are underway to develop additional educational and training opportunities in valve surgery and treatment of diseases of the esophagus and lungs as well as to provide opportunities for cardiothoracic surgeons from around the world to participate in the scientific activities sponsored by the AATS Graham Foundation.

The AATS Graham Foundation continues to support initiatives to acquaint medical students and general surgical residents with the clinical and research practice of cardiothoracic surgery. These programs have been extraordinarily successful and continue to be the focus of enhanced AATS Graham Foundation support. They include:

- **Summer Student Scholarships** which have enabled almost 300 medical students to spend two months during the summer with a cardiothoracic surgeon to expose them to our exciting specialty.
- An expanded **Resident Poster Competition** during the AATS Annual Meeting to enable residents from both domestic and international training programs to present their scientific work.

40

YEARS OF SUPPORTING

Excellence!

AATS HISTORY

On February 20th, 1917, the New York Society for Thoracic Surgery was formed for the purpose of free exchange of views and experiences in the evolution of this chapter of medical science. The outspoken purpose of creating the New York Society was to form a national society for thoracic surgery, called "THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THORACIC SURGERY".

- A continuation of our **Critical Care Scholarships** which provide funding for CT residents to attend a critical care course. This educational experience is aimed at enhancing the critical care skills of our residents and improving the care of our patients.
- Providing residents with annual subscriptions to **Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery** and **Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery**, supporting the **Lillehei Research Forum** at the AATS Annual Meeting, and providing financial support for the development of the **JCTSE/TSDA Core Curriculum**.
- The 61st **Graham Traveling Fellowship** was awarded to Dr. Haifeng Wang from Shanghai in 2012 to expand his general thoracic skills by spending a year visiting North American centers in 2013. Dr. Joon Bum Kim from Seoul – Republic of Korea received the 2013 award in October.
- In addition, the Foundation has continued its financial support of our **Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education** by underwriting several of its research awards and increasing its contribution towards its administrative costs, all part of the over \$1.6 million in support provided the TSFRE to date.

As President of the Foundation I urge all of you to come along with us as we fulfill our mission *to drive leadership, learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence* in cardiothoracic surgery.

The AATS Graham Foundation continues to take action on behalf of our specialty by working to improve the care we give to our patients through efforts to better educate and train the members of our specialty. We encourage all of you to make your medical students, residents, and young faculty aware of these opportunities offered by the AATS Graham Foundation. Information and applications are available on the Foundation’s website www.AATSGrahamFoundation.org.

Thank you for your support which allows the AATS Graham Foundation to train new leaders and to ultimately improve the care of our patients.

Sincerely,



David J. Sugarbaker, MD
President

40

YEARS OF SUPPORTING
Excellence!

AATS HISTORY

On Thursday, June 7th 1917, 66 individuals of the New York Society for Thoracic Surgery were invited to an inaugural luncheon; 23 were able to attend, and the AATS was organized. The mission of the AATS was to advance research and development in the field of cardiothoracic surgery.

The AATS Graham Foundation exists to help support the educational and research efforts of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS). The Board of Directors of AATS Graham Foundation works to ensure that the Foundation achieves its mission and vision through strategic planning inspired by its values of academic exchange, innovation and collaboration, advancing patient care, fostering leadership, and trusted stewardship.



President
David J. Sugarbaker, MD
Boston, MA



Vice President
Thoralf M. Sundt, III, MD
Boston, MA



Secretary/Treasurer
Thomas L. Spray, MD
Philadelphia, PA



Raphael Bueno, MD
Boston, MA



Timothy J. Gardner, MD
Newark, DE



J. William Gaynor, MD
Philadelphia, PA



Hartzell V. Schaff, MD
Rochester, MN



Craig R. Smith, MD
New York, NY

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council identifies innovative challenges within the specialty where resources might best be utilized and proposes potential collaborative ventures.

- Chair:** Timothy J. Gardner, MD – Newark, DE
- David H. Adams, MD – New York, NY
- Emile A. Bacha, MD – New York, NY
- Joseph E. Bavaria, MD – Philadelphia, PA
- Bryan F. Meyers, MD – St. Louis, MO

Development Committee

The Development Committee identifies, develops, and implements funding sources for Foundation initiatives.

- Chair:** Raphael Bueno, MD – Boston, MA
- James D. Luketich, MD – Pittsburgh, PA
- Mehmet C. Oz, MD – New York, NY
- Jack A. Roth, MD – Houston, TX
- Craig R. Smith, MD - New York, NY
- Lars G. Svensson, MD – Cleveland, OH
- James S. Tweddell, MD – Milwaukee, WI



Evarts Ambrose Graham, MD, a graduate of Princeton University and Rush Medical College, joined the faculty at Washington University in St. Louis as Chairman of the Department of Surgery and Chief of Surgery at what is now known as Barnes-Jewish Hospital following his discharge from military service in 1919 until 1951. During his two years of military service, Dr. Graham completed revolutionary new work on surgical technique for the treatment of empyema.

During his tenure in St. Louis, Dr. Graham collaborated with Drs. Singer, Bell and Adams on the first successful removal of a lung for the treatment of bronchogenic carcinoma in 1933 and together with Dr. Warren Henry Cole developed the technique of cholecystography, the first procedure for imaging the gallbladder and detecting the presence of cholelithiasis.

In 1950 Dr. Graham, in concert with Dr. Ernst Wynder, published the results of the first large scale systemic research on the carcinogenic effects of cigarette smoking in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Ironically, Dr. Graham, as a long time cigarette smoker, died of lung cancer in 1957.

Dr. Graham served as the Founding Editor of the *Journal of Thoracic Surgery* (now the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*) from 1931 until 1957 and, in 1927-28, as the tenth President of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery.

In 1951 the Council of the AATS, in recognition of his multitude of contributions to the specialty and to the Association, established the Evarts A. Graham Memorial Traveling Fellowship to provide support to young surgeons from abroad to come to North America to intensify his/her training in a program of special interest and to increase his/her contacts with thoracic surgeons internationally.



“The inside of the heart was the last anatomical frontier for the surgeon to pass and that frontier is now closed. But there is a wide and far-reaching physiological frontier which is just beginning to be explored. ...The physiological frontier is capable of indefinite expansion if we think of a surgeon as one who is interested in something more than cutting and sewing.”

Evarts A. Graham's presidential address to the International Surgical Society, 1956

Granting Philosophy

The AATS Graham Foundation's philanthropic history, in conjunction with its parent, the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, is a proud one. We proactively bring to life our mission of *driving leadership, learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence*, through both our time-honored and newly created programs that have continually served the cardiothoracic surgical specialty since 1973. Our educational and research programs support medical students, residents, fellows and surgeons worldwide to enhance their overall surgical knowledge and technical skills to the innovative advances and technical breakthroughs within the cardiothoracic surgical specialty.

Our granting philosophy is guided by our Foundation's values. We encourage and foster programs for academic exchange, as it is our past as well as our future. We seek to foster innovation and collaboration as we work together to advance and achieve our mission. Of the utmost importance, we support the advancement of patient care, as it is our cornerstone as physicians. We design to inspire leadership among us that maintains excellence for future generations of surgeons. And through the seasoned guidance of the AATS, our history of trusted stewardship enables us to safeguard our future

Secretary/Treasurer Financial Report

By Thomas L. Spray, MD



In its first full year of coordinated Development activity, the AATS Graham Foundation significantly surpassed its budgeted revenue of just over \$500K by generating almost \$1.5 million in Grants and Contributions and return on its investments. This enabled the Foundation to double its own Grants and Contributions to over \$600K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013 and places it in an excellent position to continue to expand its support of research and training programs during 2014.

Receipts for the past year totaled \$1,439,420, an increase of 123% over 2012. Almost 21% of receipts were from individual contributions (\$298,213) one-third of which were from new donors; corporate contributions reflected almost 10% (\$138,500); management support services from AATS amounted to slightly over 13% (\$196,258); while almost 24% was realized from investments (\$341,927). In addition the AATS annually funds the Graham Fellowships, its Research Scholars and Summer Student and Critical Care Scholarships through the Foundation; in 2013 this amounted to almost 32% of the Foundation's revenue (\$458,757).

As you will see on the charts to the left, total expenditures for the year amounted to \$905,066. Of these expenditures, 67.8% were for Grants and Contributions (\$612,874), 21.7% for management services underwritten by AATS (\$196,258), 1.7% in support of the Grant Writing Workshop (\$15,777), 7.3% for development, marketing and promotion (\$65,832) and 1.6% for committee activities (\$14,328).

At year's end the Foundation had approximately \$2.6 million in net assets in addition to a quarter of a million dollars designated for the support of the newly implemented Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigators Program and funds restricted for the recently established F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship.

These assets, and increasing donor support, will enable the Foundation to initiate new and exciting educational and research programs that demonstrate to the specialty the myriad of opportunities available for support in 2014 and beyond.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2013

ASSETS

	2013 (Unaudited)	2012 (Audited)
Cash	\$ 576,864	\$ 426,959
Investments	2,368,844	2,025,864
Accounts Receivable	512,800	5,800
Prepaid Expenses	616	560
Total Assets	\$ 3,459,124	\$ 2,459,183

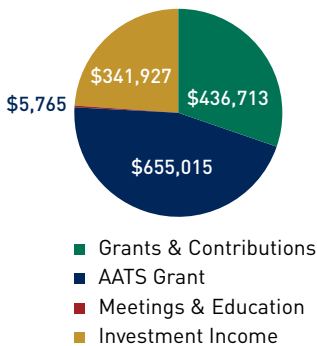
LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	9,688	-
Deferred Revenue		26,600
Grants Payable	572,255	442,255
Total Liabilities	\$ 581,943	\$ 468,855

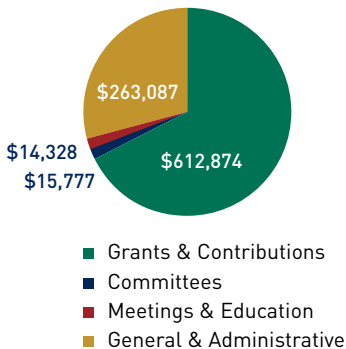
NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	2,845,681	1,990,328
Temporarily Restricted	31,500	-
Total Net Assets	2,877,181	1,990,328
Total Net Assets & Liabilities	\$ 3,459,124	\$ 2,459,183

2013 REVENUE \$1,439,420



2013 EXPENSES \$905,066



The History of the AATS in Research and Education

By Marc R. Moon, MD

In 1917, Dr. Willy Meyer championed the formation of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery to provide a forum for physicians dedicated to thoracic surgery. The AATS leadership realized during the formative years that the Association should not only provide a forum to discuss new findings, but should actively support and guide both research and education in the field. To accomplish this goal, the *Journal of Thoracic Surgery* was founded in 1931 (now the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*) to serve as a vehicle for the publication of the presentations at its Annual Meeting and the latest scientific research in the specialty. Dr. Evarts A. Graham of St. Louis, was its first Editor and set the tone for it to become the preeminent scientific publication in the field. Dr. Graham and his AATS colleagues were instrumental in the AATS working group that created the American Board of Thoracic Surgery in 1948. In recognition of his efforts to strengthen AATS' commitment to worldwide research and education in the specialty, the Council established the Evarts A. Graham Memorial Traveling Fellowship in 1950. The Graham Traveling Fellowship is granted to surgeons who possess unique promise to become international leaders in research and education in thoracic surgery. Since 1951, 61 Graham Memorial Fellows representing 30 different countries have been named, and a significant number have gone on to become international AATS leaders. Marc R. de Leval, MD was the 24th Graham Memorial Traveling Fellow in 1973-1974. He spent his year at the Mayo Clinic then returned to London for the remainder of his career at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London. In 2011, Professor de Leval was the recipient of the AATS Scientific Achievement Award which "serves to honor individuals who have achieved scientific contributions in the field of thoracic surgery worthy of the highest recognition the Association can bestow". Professor de Leval is one of only nine individuals to have received the Association's highest scientific honor, demonstrating the culmination of AATS support to promote scholarship for future leaders.

In 1985, the AATS initiated a two-year research scholarship program to support young faculty pursuing an academic career. Each year the scholarship honors one of the historic giants in CT surgery. Since its inception, the AATS has provided almost \$2 million in support of this program. Dr. David Adams, current AATS Councilor from Mount Sinai Medical Center, was the Alton Ochsner Scholar in 1992-1994. "I was very fortunate. The award opened the door to my initial faculty appointment and," he noted, "helped me advance from a young academic cardiac surgeon to Professor and Chairman of a Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery." Dr. Mehmet Oz summarized the importance of his receiving the Robert E. Gross Research Scholarship in 1994-1996, "This research facilitated my assuming a leadership position in the Columbia University laboratories where many students, residents, and junior attendings benefitted from the lessons learned from the support of the Gross scholarship." There have been 35 research scholars since the inception of this award in 1986, nearly half of whom have become chief of cardiothoracic surgery or beyond at their home institutions.

For medical students, the AATS Summer Internship program, which was established in 2007, has exposed hundreds of students in their formative years to the specialty, many of whom, based on their experience, have started the journey to become a cardiothoracic surgeon. In addition to these established programs, the AATS Graham Foundation is currently rolling out the Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigators Program to support CT surgeons interested in conducting clinical or translational research as well as a Traveling Scholar Program to provide young CT surgeons the chance to study emerging clinical techniques at several institutions of their choice.

The AATS has a rich heritage of supporting education and research in Cardiothoracic Surgery and is continuing to develop more and more programs to stimulate surgeons to advance the field through innovation. The *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, AATS research grants and awards, as well as educational programs including the Annual Meeting and symposia in North America and abroad all support the AATS Mission to *Promote Scholarship, Innovation, and Leadership in Cardiothoracic Surgery*.



“The AATS has a rich heritage of supporting education and research in Cardiothoracic Surgery and is continuing to develop more and more programs to stimulate surgeons to advance the field through innovation.”

Marc R. Moon, MD

AATS Graham Foundation Today

By Thomas L. Spray, MD



“As funding for basic research continues to be difficult from public and private sources, it is increasingly important that the AATS Graham Foundation continue to provide research opportunities for investigators in our field.”

Thomas L. Spray, MD

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) was founded in 1917 as an organization for Thoracic Surgery rather than of thoracic surgeons. The mission of the AATS was to advance research and development in the field of cardiothoracic surgery. Considering the AATS mission, the AATS Graham Foundation was established in 1973 to undertake the responsibilities of the Graham Traveling Fellowship and to serve as the funding arm of the Association’s research initiatives. The initial work of the AATS Graham Foundation was to select and fund an International Fellow to spend a year studying in North America at a center of excellence in cardiothoracic surgery. Since that initial program, a number of additional initiatives have addressed the research needs of the specialty with support from the AATS Graham Foundation. In 1985, a research scholarship program was instituted to support cutting-edge research. This research scholarship program annually awards two-year scholarships to North American surgeons in the first three years of an academic appointment who are committed to pursuing an academic career in cardiothoracic surgery. Thirty-four such awards have been granted to date. In 1998, the AATS Graham Foundation increased its support of resident research by sponsoring the C. Walton Lillehei Forum at the Annual AATS Meeting. The Lillehei Forum gives the opportunity for residents in CT surgical training programs throughout North America to present original research at the AATS’s Annual Meeting.

In 2007 the AATS began a program through the AATS Graham Foundation supporting summer intern scholarships for first and second year medical students to spend their summer studying in an AATS member’s surgical department. Over 250 students from over 74 medical schools have participated in the program to date. This has been a very popular program which stimulates interested medical students to pursue a career in cardiothoracic surgery.

The AATS Graham Foundation has supported the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE) and grant funding, including support for K 29 matching grants.

In 2012 the AATS Graham Foundation added new programs to provide resident scholarships to attend a critical care symposium, a new Resident Poster Competition at the AATS Annual Meeting and complimentary one-year online subscriptions to Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, and Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery for North American trainees.

Recognizing the increased need for support for basic research endeavors in the field of cardiothoracic surgery, in 2013 the AATS Graham Foundation initiated several new programs. A new Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigator’s program has been funded and the initial response has been outstanding. An Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship program has also been started to allow surgeons to develop their skillset with a designated aspect of cardiothoracic surgery, such as the new F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship, now being launched. Additionally, there are new programs partnering with industry to develop research grants that provide training in innovative new techniques and technology.

In the past fiscal year, the AATS Graham Foundation has provided over \$600,000 in primary grant support for research in the specialty of cardiothoracic surgery. An additional \$250,000 has been committed to the new Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigators Program and \$35,000 to the F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship Award.

The AATS Graham Foundation has a distinguished history of providing support for research and development in the field of cardiothoracic surgery with the generous support of members of the AATS, industry and voluntary contributions from cardiothoracic surgeons. As funding for basic research continues to be difficult from public and private sources, it is increasingly important that the AATS Graham Foundation continue to provide research opportunities for investigators in our field. The Foundation has continued to evolve with the needs of the specialty and continues to initiate new programs that are of value to the cardiothoracic surgical specialty and fulfill the AATS and AATS Graham Foundation missions.

FOUNDATION HISTORY

Considering the AATS mission, the AATS Graham Foundation was established in 1973 to undertake the responsibilities of the Graham Traveling Fellowship and to serve as the funding arm of the Association’s research initiatives. The initial work of the AATS Graham Foundation was to select and fund an International Fellow to spend a year studying in North America at a center of excellence in cardiothoracic surgery. Since that initial program, a number of additional initiatives have addressed the research needs of the specialty with support from the AATS Graham Foundation.

The Future of CT Surgery

By Thoralf M. Sundt, III, MD

What is the future of Cardiothoracic Surgery? That is easy – it is our next generation of surgeons – those whom we are privileged to train.

The advances will be born of their intellect, their curiosity, and most importantly perhaps their connections with each other and with their contemporaries in other disciplines. The future is about teamwork and integration addressing increasingly complex problems in innovative ways. It is for this reason that it is so critical that we attract the best and the brightest to our exciting, if demanding, field; and once attracted we must support their career development.

It is for these reasons that the AATS Graham Foundation is so important to our specialty. The activities of the Foundation are all centered about fostering the next generation. The spectrum of individuals supported range from the medical students in the summer intern program to junior faculty via named research awards, with a smattering of research scholarships and traveling fellowship to those in between.

In addition to basic, clinical, and translational research, the AATS and its Foundation takes its support of educational activities including leadership training via the AATS Leadership Academy seriously. The future of CT surgery will demand greater leadership skills as we all function within increasingly complex health care organizations and respond to increasing degrees of regulation in the face of financial constraints. CT surgeons have always been leaders in the Operating Room. We are goal oriented and task-focused. In a world that demands results, we are the right ones to lead in the Board Room as well. To be successful there, however, we need to develop the subtle relationship skills not typically taught in surgical residency that are necessary to build consensus and inspire alignment to a strategic vision among participants of diverse background and interest.

But let’s be honest about economics as well. The days of “easy money” – if there ever truly were any – are behind us as individual surgeons and as professional organizations. It is for this reason that the leadership of the Foundation is consciously focused on exercising fiscal discipline as it carries out its activities in order to maintain a sustainable model of support. The AATS has stepped up to aid the Foundation by assuming all administrative costs, so that all individual gifts are applied directly to our Foundation programs.



40

YEARS OF SUPPORTING

Excellence!

FOUNDATION HISTORY

In 1985 a research scholarship program was instituted to support cutting edge research. In 1998 the AATS Graham Foundation increased its support of resident research by sponsoring the C. Walton Lillehei Forum at the Annual AATS Meeting. In 2007 the AATS began a program through the AATS Graham Foundation supporting summer intern scholarships for first and second year medical students to spend their summer studying in an AATS member’s surgical department. In 2012 the AATS Graham Foundation added new programs to provide resident scholarships to attend the FACTS-Care Critical Care Symposium, a new Resident Poster Session Scholarship at the AATS Annual Meeting and complimentary one-year online subscriptions to “Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery” and “Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery” for North American trainees.

The Evarts A. Graham Traveling Fellowship

The Evarts A. Graham Traveling Fellowship was established in 1951 by the AATS for the purpose of supporting the study within North America by promising young academic cardiothoracic surgeons from outside the region to broaden their overall training and increase international contacts. Since the inception of the Graham Fellowship, 61 Graham Fellows from 30 countries have spent a year studying in North America. The Fellowship provides a stipend of \$75,000 US to support studies at a primary center of their choice as well as travel to secondary sites in North America.

Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE)

In support of our colleagues, the AATS and its Foundation have provided over \$1.65 million to the TSFRE, including funding for their four major awards in 2012, which were in support of research and simulation programs, a \$300K commitment.

Research Scholarships

Since 1986 this program provides \$160,000 for a two-year scholarship opportunity for research, training and experience for North American surgeons committed to pursuing an academic career in cardiothoracic surgery. To date, 35 research awards have been granted totaling over \$4 million.

C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum

Established in 1998 this Forum supports the participation, travel and expenses of eight resident presentations at the AATS Annual Meeting competing for \$5,000 awards. This is a competition open to all residents in CTS training programs. From the submitted abstracts the top eight are selected for presentation. Following review of the abstract, the manuscript and the oral presentation, a “winner” is selected. The Foundation has funded 112 awards that cover hotel and air travel accommodations since its inception.

■ **C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum ~ 2013 Winner**

Jeevan Nagendran, MD – *Edmonton, Canada*

Journal Subscriptions

All North American residents and AATS Summer Interns receive a complimentary one-year electronic subscription to *Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, quarterly scientific publications.

Critical Care Scholarships

In 2012, resident scholarships were established providing support for first year cardiothoracic surgical residents to participate in the FACTS-Care Critical Care Symposium. To date, over 40 scholarships have been provided.



Resident Poster Competition

Resident Poster Competition at the AATS Annual Meeting was established in 2013 and provides an opportunity for one cardiothoracic surgery resident or fellow from any North American CTS residency to receive a poster of their clinical or laboratory research, in addition to a \$500 stipend. Nearly 80 residents are expected to participate in 2014.

■ Resident Poster Competition ~ 2013 Winners

Adult Cardiac Surgery Poster Winners

- 1st Place Chris Sciortino – *John Hopkins University*
- 2nd Place Jennifer Chung – *McGill University Health Centre*
- 3rd Place Justin Schaffer – *Stanford Hospital and Clinics*

Congenital Heart Disease Poster Winners

- 1st Place Rachel Vanderlaan – *University of Toronto*
- 2nd Place Michael Monge – *Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago*
- 3rd Place Andrea Cooley – *UT Southwestern Medical Center*

General Thoracic Surgery Poster Winners:

- 1st Place Ankit Bharat – *Washington University*
- 2nd Place Ian Makey – *Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center*
- 3rd Place David Odell – *University of Pittsburgh*

Summer Intern Scholarships

Established in 2007, this Scholarship provides an opportunity for first and second year North American medical students to spend eight weeks during the summer working in a North American cardiothoracic surgery department. The Foundation has awarded \$960,000 to 251 students from over 79 participating medical schools to date.

■ 2013 AATS Summer Intern Scholars

Christopher Abraham – <i>West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>	Matthew Hunt – <i>University of North Carolina</i>
Derek Afflu – <i>Howard University</i>	Jacob Inda – <i>University of Wisconsin</i>
Paul Al-Attar – <i>University of Michigan</i>	Joshua Jolissaint – <i>University of Virginia</i>
August Boeglin – <i>Indiana University</i>	Korie Jones – <i>Wake Forest University</i>
Se-In Choe – <i>McGill University</i>	Janny Xue Chen Ke – <i>University of British Columbia</i>
Charles Choi – <i>Texas A & M Health Science Center College of Medicine</i>	Yuying Luo – <i>New York University</i>
Elizabeth Constantz – <i>Tulane University</i>	Alexander Meyer – <i>University of Cincinnati</i>
Rahul Dalal – <i>Brown University</i>	Warren Naselsky – <i>University of North Carolina</i>
Daniel Dolan – <i>University of Cincinnati</i>	Whitney Quong – <i>University of British Columbia</i>
Ryan Graf – <i>Medical College of Wisconsin</i>	Christiaan Rees – <i>Dartmouth University</i>
Paul Guillod – <i>Yale University</i>	Stewart Richardson – <i>Medical University of South Carolina</i>
Rahul Handa – <i>University of Cincinnati</i>	Sonia Shah – <i>Northwestern University</i>
Joseph Herbert – <i>University of Texas</i>	Malcolm Stennett – <i>Howard University</i>
Sameer Hirji – <i>Duke University</i>	Wayne Tse – <i>Wright State University</i>
Michael Hughes – <i>University of Texas</i>	Courtney Yong – <i>The Ohio State University</i>



The Evarts A. Graham Traveling Fellowship Program was established in 1950 by the AATS for the purpose of supporting study within North America by promising young academic cardiothoracic surgeons from outside the region to broaden their overall training and increase international contacts. Since the inception of the Graham Fellowship, 61 Graham Fellows from 30 countries have spent a year studying in North America.

The Fellowship currently provides a stipend of \$75,000 US to support studies at a primary center of their choice as well as travel to secondary sites in North America. The Fellowship also provides complimentary admission to the AATS Annual Meeting, and round-trip coach air fares from the recipient's country to his/her primary center.



Joon Bum Kim, MD | Asan Medical Center, Seoul, Republic of Korea

FELLOWSHIP:

- Nine months as a Clinical Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital

Six weeks as an observer at:

- Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland OH
- University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Houston TX

Contributions/Studies:

- Forty contributions to scientific literature and nine case reports and twenty contributions to non-scientific journals

“I aim to make my surgical procedures and overall clinical practice reproducible and reliable in these most challenging areas in cardiovascular surgery – aortic valve repair and aorta surgery. By doing so, I am also willing to contribute to the Korean Society by propagation of these experiences just as prior Korean Graham Fellows, Dr. Bum Koo Cho (in 1976) and Dr. Byung-Chul Chang (in 1987), had introduced open heart surgery and the Maze procedure, and had contributed to popularize it in Korea decades ago. My efforts will be continued on after this training to develop sincere international relationships so that we can cooperate on many clinical and scientific works in the future.”



Haifeng Wang, MD | Shanghai Pulmonary Hospital, Shanghai, China

FELLOWSHIP:

- Ten months as a Clinical Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital

Three months as an observer at:

- Massachusetts General Hospital
- Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Washington University

Contributions/Studies:

- Ten contributions (textbook articles, manuscripts...) to scientific literature.

“My goal of training in the US is to gain an insight into leading techniques in current general thoracic surgery, such as airway surgery, thoracoscopic surgery and lung transplantation, etc.”

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Research Scholarship was established by the American Association for Thoracic Surgery in 1985. Funded by the Association and individual contributions, the Research Scholarship provides opportunity for research, training and experience for North American surgeons committed to pursuing an academic career in cardiothoracic surgery. Administered by the AATS Graham Foundation, the program is undertaken within the first three years after completion of an approved cardiothoracic residency and is about two years in duration.

The John W. Kirklin Research Scholar ~ 2013-2015



Min P. Kim, MD | The Methodist Hospital
Weill Cornell Medical Center, Houston, Texas

- Project Title: "A Novel Ex Vivo Three Dimensional Model for the Isolation and Identification of Circulating Tumor Cells"

Third John H. Gibbon Research Scholars ~ 2014 – 2016

Ankit Bharat, MD | Assistant Professor | Northwestern Memorial Hospital

- Characterization of the role of B cells and autoantibodies in lung allograft rejection

"My goal at the completion of the scholarship will be to write a successful grant application using the data gathered to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the immune responses in lung transplantation. In addition, the studies outlined here would form a strong basis for me to develop prospective clinical trials to treat patients with autoantibodies and B cell activation with the hope of improving long-term outcomes following lung transplantation."

Joseph Turek, MD | Assistant Professor | University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

- Multi-Level Interactions Between Calcium/Calmodulin-Dependent Protein Kinase II and Transient Receptor Potential Vanilloid I Regulate Oxidation-Mediated Aortic Aneurysm Progression in Marfan Syndrome

"I strive to contribute to the understanding of cellular mechanisms involved in aneurysm progression and to influence treatment paradigms for these patients."

FOUNDATION HISTORY

Recognizing the increased need for support for basic research endeavors in the field of cardiothoracic surgery, in 2013 the AATS Graham Foundation initiated several additional programs. A new Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigator's program has been funded and the initial response has been outstanding. An Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship program, including a new F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship, has also been started to allow residents to develop their skillset with a designated mentor in cardiothoracic surgical fields. Additionally, there are new programs partnering with industry to develop research grants that provide training in innovative new techniques and technology.

Newly Launched Programs

Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigators Program

The Foundation has allocated \$250,000 to this program in its initial stages. Encompassing each of the Foundation's values, the program aims to provide initial support of up to \$50,000 annually for young cardiothoracic surgeons interested in conducting clinical or translational research.

Intuitive Surgical Robotics Fellowship



This new collaboration will provide an advanced educational experience for 8 North American general

thoracic fellows and their attending surgeons to spend a two-day period at Intuitive Surgical's facility in Atlanta, GA participating in a mixture of didactic lectures and hands-on instruction. A minimum case requirement for fellows over the subsequent year is mandatory.

Traveling Scholars Program

This program provides an educational experience for young cardiothoracic surgeons from around the world to spend a period of time studying clinical techniques at a host institution. Awards are designed to help defray related travel and living expenses incurred at the host institution.

Edwards Lifesciences Advanced Treatments of Valve Disease Fellowship



Edwards

This Fellowship is primarily geared to provide an opportunity for a minimum of three months' time at a host institution to obtain valve repair and transcatheter techniques repair or replacement of all valves.

Honoring Our Mentors Fellowship Program

The program has been established to honor those surgeons who have demonstrated their longstanding leadership and dedication over the course of their careers to the surgical specialty and their trainees.

F. Griffith Pearson Mentor Fellowship

This Fellowship provides an educational experience for North American cardiothoracic surgeons who have recently completed their residency or fellowship to spend a focused period of four (4) to six (6) weeks' time studying general thoracic clinical techniques at a host institution in North America.

2014 F. Griffith Pearson Traveling Fellows:

Sheamus Carr, MD – *University of Utah, Salt Lake City*

Wael Hanna, MD – *McMasters University, Hamilton Ontario*

AATS Member for a Day Program

The program will provide an opportunity for up to 20 North American medical students and general surgery residents to accompany an AATS Member Mentor, along with a resident member of the Thoracic Surgery Residents Association (TSRA) during portions of the 2014 AATS Annual Meeting. The program is designed to offer medical students and general surgery residents insight into the cardiothoracic surgery specialty and to provide an opportunity to network and build relationships within the cardiothoracic surgical community.

Roger R. Ecker, MD and Judith Ecker

Roger R. Ecker, MD has been a member of the AATS since 1971, two years before the AATS Graham Foundation was founded. He remembers the Evarts A. Graham Traveling Fellowship Program's existence even prior to the founding of the AATS Graham Foundation in 1973. As a past NIH research fellowship recipient, Dr. Ecker intimately understands the



Roger R. Ecker, MD and his wife Judith

importance of research and education in the career of a cardiothoracic surgeon. That is one of the reasons why Dr. Ecker and his wife Judith, have remembered the AATS Graham Foundation in their estate planning. A U.S. military veteran and graduate of Cornell Medical College in New York City, Dr. Ecker focused on surgery at The New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center during a time when there were lots of exciting developments happening in the cardiothoracic surgical specialty. “Many of the techniques that are standard today were just being developed. Valve surgery and congenital heart surgery were in a state of innovation and

experimentation. Coronary bypass did not yet exist. I wanted to be part of this new frontier,” says Dr. Ecker. “As my career developed, I was privileged to learn from the pioneers and legends in our specialty. Major contributions were made by American surgeons, and also those from Europe, Asia and other parts of the globe. Some were Graham Traveling Fellowship recipients. This expanded outlook has helped to shape the AATS and the specialty of Cardiac Surgery.”

A former faculty member in Dallas at Southwestern Medical School and later in private practice in California, Dr. Ecker is grateful for the continuing education provided by the AATS and the other cardiothoracic organizations. The AATS has always been dedicated to Science and Education, Research and Leadership, as evidenced by its mission to *Promote Scholarship, Innovation, and Leadership in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. Dr. Ecker says “I was privileged to be a part of this tremendous effort on behalf of our many patients suffering from cardiac and thoracic disorders. Now is the time to make a small repayment, in order for the future to be as productive as the past has been.”

The Ecker's decision to support the Foundation through a planned estate disbursement was made with confidence, knowing that the Foundation is part of the AATS – an international organization of over 1,300 of the world's foremost cardiothoracic surgeons representing 41 countries. Its members have a proven record of distinction within the specialty and have made significant contributions to the care and treatment of cardiothoracic disease throughout the world.

“I was privileged to be a part of this tremendous effort on behalf of our many patients suffering from cardiac and thoracic disorders. Now is the time to make a small repayment, in order for the future to be as productive as the past has been.”

Roger R. Ecker, MD

AATS Graham Foundation Case for Support

Why is philanthropic support important to the AATS Graham Foundation? Because, at no point in history has medical research made advances at the current breathtaking pace. We seek donors who wish to participate in academic exchange, innovation and collaboration, advancing patient care, and fostering leadership in ways that will benefit all of our patients. Gifts from individuals, grateful patients and families, corporations and foundations allow our physician scientists to apply their energy and expertise to the pursuit of new and novel innovations in a wide range of thoracic surgeries and transplant management. Our support of congenital and adult cardiac and thoracic surgeons makes it better for patients by educating, training and supporting our unique niche market. By making a gift to the AATS Graham Foundation, you invest in our mission to *drive leadership, learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence* that translates to better health care for all.

Why should I support the AATS Graham Foundation?

Whether you are a professional within our specialty, an individual or an organization, we know there are many demands made of your time as well as your philanthropy. The AATS Graham Foundation brings its mission to life by educating cardiac and thoracic surgeons at every level, through initiating and supporting research initiatives that meet a unique need in cardiothoracic surgery.

We reach out to donors just like you who are either members of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), or have professional knowledge or personal experience with our specialty. As professionals and individuals deeply involved in our specialty, you understand the important value in supporting research, scholarship and educational programs and activities.

The preeminent reputation of the AATS, and subsequently the AATS Graham Foundation, sets us apart from all other philanthropic opportunities available to donors.

The AATS' conviction to model excellence flows through to our Foundation and is evident in our grant-making, that funds needed scholarship, mentored leadership, and collaborative education. Equally important is our reputation of trusted stewardship that honors our history and safeguards our future.

The AATS Graham Foundation, and its parent, the AATS, partners with other foundations and associations where it is clear that collaboration is justified, cost-effective and advancing of patient care. We partner with organizations who believe in fostering leadership, advancing education and the importance of innovation in medical science.

We ask that the AATS Graham Foundation remains or becomes a top priority in the whole of your philanthropy. With your help, we will continue to be fully poised to respond to future demands, and expand our vision of a dynamic and innovative future of continued excellence for cardiothoracic surgery!

The Donor Bill of Rights

Philanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. To ensure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public, and that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in the AATS Graham Foundation and the programs we ask them to support, we declare that all donors have these rights:

- I. To be informed of the AATS Graham Foundation's mission, of the way the organization intends to use donated resources, and of its capacity to use donations effectively for their intended purposes.
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- IX. To have the opportunity for their names to be deleted from mailing lists that the AATS Graham Foundation may intend to share.
- X. To feel free to ask questions when making a donation and to receive prompt, truthful and forthright answers.

Becoming a Donor

The AATS Graham Foundation is grateful to donors who wish to support its ongoing mission of *driving leadership, learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence*. Many forms of charitable giving are appreciated by the Foundation and can be done online or by contacting the Foundation.

OUTRIGHT GIFTS

All gifts made to the AATS Graham Foundation are 100% tax deductible to the fullest extent of US law. They include gifts of:

- **Cash**
- **Check**
- **Credit Card**
- **Stock**
Avoid capital gains on appreciated security
- **Honorarium**
100% tax deductible to whatever entity is making the donation. Donors will receive credit for their gift in our annual and Lifetime Giving Societies.

Please visit our website to make your gift online at www.AATSGrahamFoundation.org or call 978-927-8330 to make your gift today.

PLANNED GIFTS

Please contact your personal financial advisor and discuss your philanthropic intentions. Also please contact the AATS Graham Foundation so we may recognize your thoughtful generosity.

The Foundation welcomes the following types of Planned Gifts that are 100% tax deductible to the fullest extent of US law:

- **Bequests**
Gifts through a WILL.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts**
Pays beneficiaries an income for life; funded with cash, appreciated securities or real estate, and providing significant current tax benefits as well as reducing probate and estate costs for your heirs.
- **Life Insurance**
Existing or new policies can be a vehicle for providing a meaningful gift. Insurance can also be used to replace assets that have been earmarked for a charitable gift.
- **IRAs or Individual Retirement Accounts**
Recent legislation has provided additional incentives for gifting IRAs. Current regulations allow the transfer of certain IRA assets to the Foundation.

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For more information on Planned Gifts, contact Ray Pasciuto, Director of Development at 978-927-8330.

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 - Option to be profiled in AATS Graham Foundation Annual Report
- Benefits:* Lapel Pin, Apple Nano, Tie/Scarf, Plaque, Crystal Desk Clock

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- Attendance at AATS Graham Foundation Reception
- Benefits:* Lapel Pin, Apple Nano, Tie/Scarf, Coffee Mug

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- Attendance at AATS Graham Foundation Reception
- Benefits:* Lapel Pin, Apple Nano, Tie/Scarf

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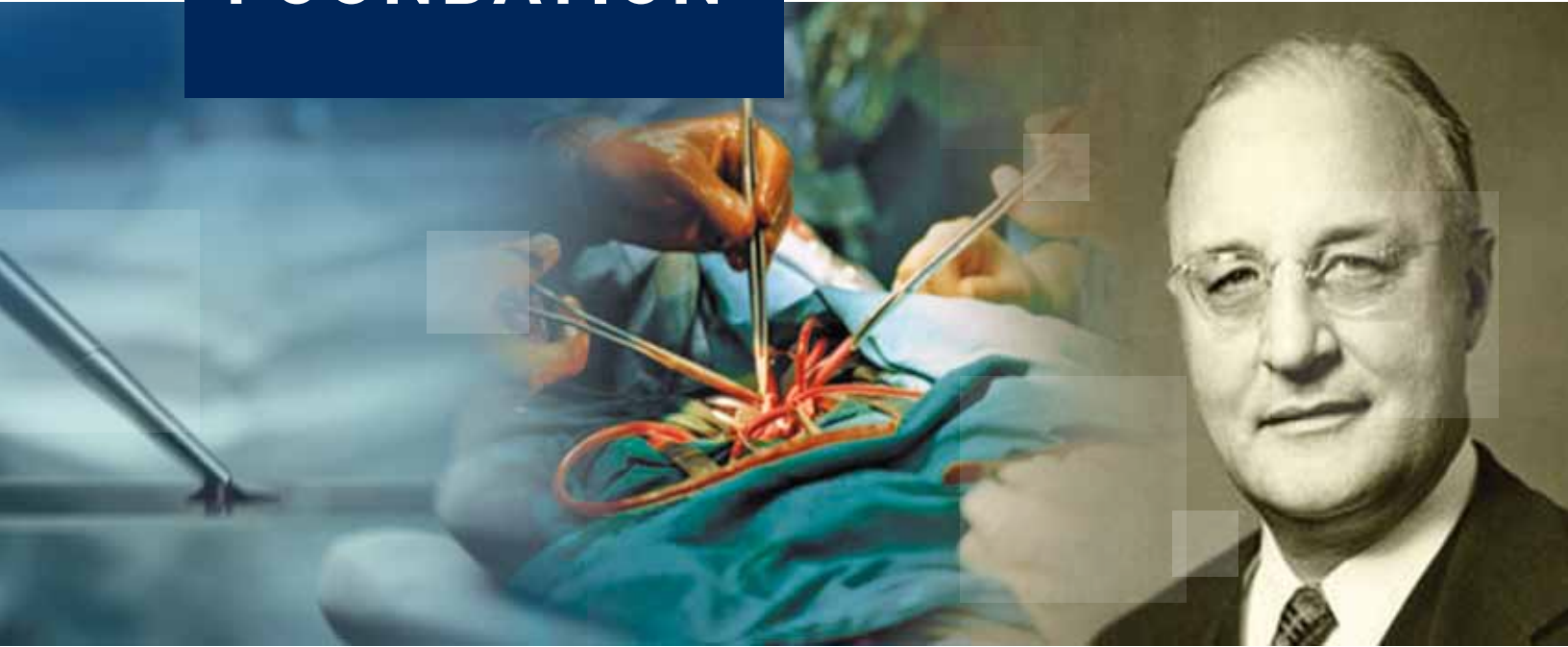
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