ANNUAL REPORT

2015

THORACIC SURGERY FOUNDATION for RESEARCH and EDUCATION

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Thoracic Surgery Foundation

for Research and Education

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TSFRE President's Message

Dear Colleagues, Patients, and Friends:

I am pleased to announce that in 2015, TSFRE awarded $270,000 in new CT surgery research grants, $150,000 to support surgeon teams treating and educating underserved populations, and $45,250 in educational scholarships.

On January 13, 2016, we shortened our name to The Thoracic Surgery Foundation to better reflect our mission as a foundation dedicated to the support of thoracic surgery. You may be wondering what we did with the "R" and "E" in TSFRE. We still are strongly supportive of Research and Education as our award offerings demonstrate, but are now more inclusive of charitable outreach and leadership development. Since this report is a reflection of 2015 activities, it references our name during that time: TSFRE. All Foundation publications going forward will reflect our new name: TSF.

It has been a great year. TSF's success in 2015 is reflective of your support. Here are a few highlights:

- Surgeon donations surged in 2015, nearly tripling the amount received in 2014.
- Organizational partners including the Cleveland Clinic, Johns Hopkins Medical Center, the Mayo Clinic, and the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association donated more than $61,000.
- Renewed and expanded support from industry partners, including Acelity and Edwards Lifesciences, generated $175,000 in award funding.
- The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) donated funds to cover its annual management fee and all direct expenses for the 2015 calendar year, and supplemented award funding.

With STS covering TSF's administrative costs, every dollar raised in 2015 was applied to award offerings. Your donations to TSF are a wise investment. An investment that makes a real and tangible impact on you personally, on your colleagues, on our profession, and on the patients we serve.

The pages of this report contain the names of surgeons, corporate supporters, patients, and friends who have invested in the future of cardiothoracic surgery through their support of TSF. On behalf of those surgeons who have benefited from TSF's research and educational programs, and the multitude of patients who will ultimately benefit from these programs, a heartfelt thank you for your generous support.

I urge those who have not given to the Foundation in the past to consider doing so today. If you have generously given in the past, please consider another gift at this time. Let's build on the momentum from a successful 2015 to make 2016 an even better year.

Thank you for your support.

John Calhoon MD.

John H. Calhoon, MD
TSF President

2015 TSFRE AWARDS PROGRAM

1. **TSFRE Research Grant**
   Operational support of original research efforts by cardiothoracic surgeons who have completed their formal training, and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. Awards of up to $40,000 per year for up to two years are granted to support the work of an early-career cardiothoracic surgeon (within five years of first faculty appointment).

2. **TSFRE Nina Starr Braunwald Research Grant**
   Operational support of original research efforts by women cardiac surgeons who have completed their formal training, and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. Awards of up to $40,000 per year for up to two years are granted to support the work of early-career women cardiac surgeons (within five years of first faculty appointment).

3. **TSFRE Nina Starr Braunwald Research Fellowship**
   Support of up to $30,000 per year for up to two years for a woman resident working in a cardiac surgical clinic or laboratory research program who has not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training.

4. **TSFRE Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship**
   Support of up to $10,000 for a clinically established woman cardiothoracic surgeon to travel to another institution for the purpose of learning a new skill or technology.

5. **TSFRE Alley-Sheridan Scholarships:**
   A. Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management: Support for up to 10 partial scholarships of $2,500 toward the $5,200 cost to attend the Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management at the Heller School of Public Policy and Management at Brandeis University.

   B. ACS Surgeons as Educators: Support for up to two scholarships of $2,500 toward the cost of tuition to attend the Surgeons as Educators course hosted by the American College of Surgeons.

6. **TSFRE/Edwards Lifesciences Every Heartbeat Matters Grant**
   Support of up to $37,500 for qualified surgeons who conduct charity work in underserved regions. This award is designed to provide support for programs that educate, screen, and/or treat underserved populations to reduce the global burden of heart valve disease, or to support other programs that advance health care and address underserved populations.

2015 TSFRE RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS Total Awarded: **$270,000**

	Name	Institution	Type/Amount	Project Title
	JESSICA S. DONINGTON, MD	NYU School of Medicine	Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship **—$10,000**	*Robotic Thoracic Surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham*

"Robotic skills are crucial to improving patient outcomes and aligning myself with my university's robotic surgery initiatives, but as a busy surgeon with limited mentoring available locally, proper training presents a challenge. The Reed Fellowship allows me a dedicated block to train one-on-one with a preeminent robotic surgery educator."

	MELANIE A. EDWARDS, MD	St. Louis University	Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship **—$10,000**	*Robotic Thoracic Surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham*

"It is an honor to be awarded this fellowship, named for Carolyn Reed, who was a great inspiration and role model. This award will significantly aid in mitigating the challenge of incorporating new technology into the armamentarium of a practicing surgeon."

	HEIDI J. REICH, MD	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	Braunwald Fellowship **—$30,000**	*Repeat Dosing of Allogeneic Cardiosphere-derived Cells After Myocardial Infarction in Immunocompetent Rats*

"This award enables me to spend a second year fully dedicated to basic science research. The opportunity to work in the Marbán lab studying ischemic heart disease, cardiac regeneration, and the immune response to donor-derived stem cells is an amazing gift. I am thankful for the opportunity to complete this research fellowship and carry Dr. Nina Starr Braunwald's legacy."

	HANGHANG WANG, MD	Duke University Medical Center	Braunwald Fellowship **—$60,000**	*Metabolomic and MicroRNA Signatures in Peripheral Blood of Patients with Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm*

"I am honored to receive the TSFRE Braunwald Fellowship. I am excited about the opportunity to combine my interests in computational biology and cardiothoracic surgery as I join the next generation of surgeon scientists."

	BRYAN A. WHITSON, MD, PhD	The Ohio State University	Research Grant **—$80,000**	*MG53 Mitigation of Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury in Lung Transplantation: Mechanisms of Action in Ex-Vivo Lung Perfusion*

"I was honored to receive the TSFRE Research Grant and would like to thank the Foundation for the award. This grant will provide much needed support to expand and obtain critical preliminary data. In addition, the time this grant allows and the interactions with national thought leaders will enable further refinement of proposals for future extramural funding applications. The value of TSFRE's acknowledgement of our research endeavors locally and nationally is immeasurable."

	BO YANG, MD, PhD	University of Michigan	Research Grant **—$80,000**	*Determining the Effect of TGFBR Mutations on Myocardin-dependent Smooth Muscle Differentiation Using Human iPS Cells*

"Receiving a TSFRE Research Grant has helped to advance my academic research career at the University of Michigan. This is an example of the commitment of the STS and TSFRE in the continued research advancement for the CT specialty. I am honored and grateful to receive this award."

2015 ALLEY-SHERIDAN AND EDUCATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Total Awarded: **$45,250**

Recipient	Institution	Type	Amount
B. ZANE ATKINS, MD	University of California, Davis	Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management, Brandeis University	**$2,500**
SUBHASIS CHATTERJEE, MD	Affinity Heart Lung Vascular Institute, St. Elizabeth Hospital	Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management, Brandeis University	**$2,500**
JOHN F. LAZAR, MD	PinnacleHealth Cardiovascular Institute	Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management, Brandeis University	**$2,500**
GLENN JEFFREY PELLETIER, MD	Nemours Cardiac Center, A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children	Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management, Brandeis University	**$2,500**
JANE L. SCHWABE, MD	Heartland Cardiothoracic Surgery	Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management, Brandeis University	**$2,500**
BETTY C. TONG, MD	Duke University	Surgeons as Educators Course, American College of Surgeons	**$4,150**
JOINT COUNCIL ON THORACIC SURGERY EDUCATION		CT Surgery Resident Jeopardy Competition	**$28,600**

Class of 2015 Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management, Brandeis University

David Sheridan, inventor of over 50 healthcare patents, established the Alley-Sheridan Fund to honor his friend and thoracic surgeon, Ralph Alley, MD. Dr. Alley was a Founding Member of STS. The Alley-Sheridan Fund has supported over 265 educational scholarships for CT surgeons to attend the Leadership Program at Brandeis. Pictured here at the TSFRE Reception held at the STS 51st Annual Meeting in San Diego in 2015 are David Sheridan's daughter, Davene Brown, with her husband, Jerry Brown.

Donate

2015 TSFRE/EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES FOUNDATION *EVERY HEARTBEAT MATTERS* AWARD RECIPIENTS

Total Awarded: **$150,000**

	Name	Institution	Type/Amount	Project Title
	RALPH M. BOLMAN, III, MD	University of Vermont College of Medicine	*Every Heartbeat Matters* **—$37,500**	*Increasing Access to Reduce the Burdens of Rheumatic Heart Disease in Rwanda*

"We appreciate the opportunity to work with EHM for this worthy project. We have completed three days of surgery in Rwanda with six successful valve cases completed. This news is a big boost for our team and our efforts, and we are sincerely grateful for this award."

	EMILY A. FARKAS, MD	CardioStart International	*Every Heartbeat Matters* **— $11,000**	*Establishing a Not-For-Profit Cardiac Surgical Program at Kathmandu University Dhulikhel*

"One of the fundamental reasons we choose medicine is to use our skill set to benefit those who need it most, and there are countless countries worldwide with little or no access to cardiac care. Working with organizations like TSFRE and Edwards Lifesciences, we can establish cardiac surgical centers in those places where the need is the greatest. It's an honor and privilege to partner with these philanthropic, forward-thinking leaders in our specialty and industry."

	FREDERICK L. GROVER, MD	University of Colorado	*Every Heartbeat Matters* **—$37,000**	*Enhancing Access to Care and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease in Nepal*

"This grant will be used to develop clinics in remote villages to identify and treat patients with cardiovascular problems and to arrange for referral and transportation of patients needing cardiac surgery or advanced medical management to Kathmandu for treatment, many of whom would die without valve repair or replacement or other tertiary cardiac care."

	V. MOHAN REDDY, MD	University of California San Francisco	*Every Heartbeat Matters* **—$27,000**	*Building Capacity for Pediatric Heart Valve Disease in Southeast Asia*

"My goal is to teach the younger generations through training and mentoring how to address more and more of these complicated congenital heart defects."

	J. NILAS YOUNG, MD	University of California, Davis	*Every Heartbeat Matters* **—$37,500**	*Educating Cardiac Surgeons and Cardiologists on: (1) The Prevalence of Valvular Heart Disease, (2) The Consequences for Underserved Populations, and (3) Appropriate Medical, Surgical, and Interventional Treatment Options throughout the Russian Federation*

"Heart disease is the number one killer worldwide. To combat heart disease globally, the key is regional cardiac centers of excellence strategically located throughout the world. U.S. cardiac professionals are well positioned to play an important/key role in establishing these much-needed centers. I am honored and pleased to work with TSFRE and Edwards Lifesciences in their joint effort to reach underserved heart patients worldwide."

TSFRE/EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES FOUNDATION *EVERY HEARTBEAT MATTERS* AWARDS

Helping Underserved Regions of the World Reduce the Burden of Heart Disease

Dr. Ralph Bolman's team travels to King Faisal Hospital in Kigali, the capital city of Rwanda, to perform heart valve replacements and repairs for Rwandan residents who would otherwise die without them. The mission of Team Heart is to provide cardiac surgical care for Rwandans with rheumatic heart disease, as well as medical and surgical training for physicians and nurses at King Faisal Hospital.

Dr. Fred Grover's team performs emergency valve surgery on a Nepal patient who lives in a remote village.

Local Nepali physicians from Kathmandu University, members of CardioStart International team, and Dr. Emily Farkas unite to help patients suffering from cardiac disease.

A Nepal earthquake victim is treated at Kathmandu University Hospital by Dr. Emily Farkas' team.

Drs. David Fullerton, Fred Grover, Rob Quaife, and Monmohan Chief Nurse, Bimala Neupane.

Dr. Nilas Young's team implants a donated Edwards mitral valve #31 into a 48 year-old Russian patient diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, mitral and tricuspid insufficiency. The patient also received an Edwards tricuspid ring #30 for her annuloplasty. She recovered well and was discharged from the CICU two days post-operatively.

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HISTORY OF THE THORACIC SURGERY FOUNDATION (TSF)

TSF is a pivotal force for growth and vitality in cardiothoracic surgery, especially for research and academic career development. The Foundation was first established by The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) in 1988 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization. From 1993-2014, the Board of Directors was composed of members of the four leading thoracic surgery societies: The American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA), and the Western Thoracic Surgical Association (WTSA). On October 1, 2014, the Foundation returned to its roots, once again becoming the charitable arm of STS. TSF represents thoracic surgery in the United States and its research and educational initiatives support the broad spectrum of thoracic surgery. The mission of TSF is to foster the development of surgeon scientists in cardiothoracic surgery; increasing knowledge and innovation to benefit patient care.

2015 TSFRE Board of Directors
Back Row L to R: Drs. Joseph Sabik, Richard Pierson, Doug Wood (Vice President), David Fullerton, Shanda Blackmon, Robert Higgins
Front Row L to R: Priscilla Kennedy (Executive Director), Drs. Keith Naunheim (Secretary), John Calhoon (President), Mark Allen (Treasurer), Andrea Carpenter

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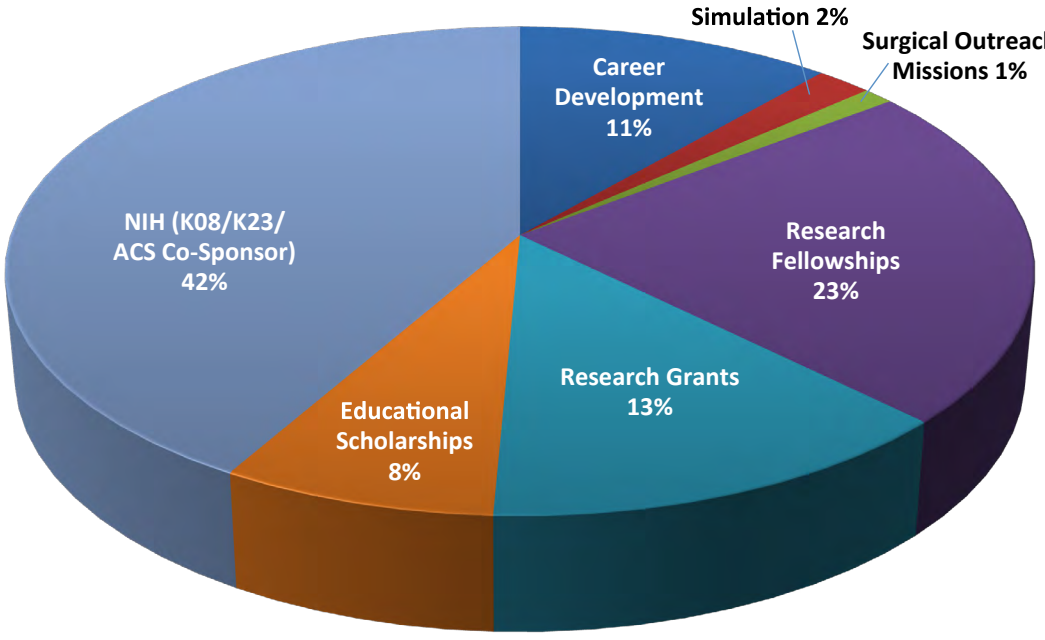
TSFRE Research and Education Award Funding*



Total Funding = $13,396,690

*Unaudited report as of 12/31/15

Donate

MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON FELLOWSHIP

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) and the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE) are pleased to announce the creation of the Michael J. Davidson Fellowship. Dr. Davidson was tragically murdered while at work doing what he loved.

Davidson graduated from Yale University School of Medicine in 1996 and completed residencies at Duke University Medical Center and the Brigham and Women's Hospital. Following completion of his cardiac surgery training, he completed an additional year of training divided between the cardiac catheterization lab and the operating theatre, mastering sophisticated catheter skills and building a bridge to the hybrid future which he envisioned and helped to create. Dr. Davidson joined the faculty at Brigham and Women's as Associate Surgeon where, along with his colleagues in interventional cardiology, he established a TAVR program. Dr. Davidson also served as Assistant Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School.

Please help honor Dr. Davidson's life by contributing today to this fellowship in his name. Applications for this fellowship will be accepted beginning in July of 2016.

$256,275
Raised

CAROLYN E. REED TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP

Carolyn E. Reed, MD was a thoracic surgeon, an educator and a successful researcher, who died early and before her retirement. To honor the memory of Dr. Reed and to continue her commitment to education and innovation, the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE), in conjunction with Women in Thoracic Surgery (WTS), established the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship. This fellowship allows women cardiothoracic surgeons to travel to another institution to learn a new technology, foster collaboration between surgical investigators, and provide a new innovation to their home institution.

Help honor the memory of Dr. Reed by designating your TSFRE contribution to the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship fund today.

Dr. Melanie Edwards, 2015 Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship recipient, and her sponsor, Dr. Robert Cerfolio, during her fellowship to develop skills in robotics at the University of Alabama.

Donate

TSFRE LEGACY AWARDS

Instrumental leaders whose legacies live on through annual TSFRE awards

Ralph D. Alley, MD
Former STS President

Ralph D. Alley, MD
Alley-Sheridan Scholarship Fund

Dr. Ralph D. Alley was born in Bulson, India to missionary parents. He was a graduate of Yale Medical School and an Intern in Surgery at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Dr. Alley was a Founding Member of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), and served as its Secretary from 1969-1974. He served on the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, was a Regent of the American College of Surgeons, and served as STS President from 1975-1976. He was known as a spell-binding story teller, and he was a friend of thoracic surgeons and thoracic surgery.

Moved by his collaborator and friend's commitment to thoracic surgery, David S. Sheridan donated $1 million to TSFRE to establish the Alley-Sheridan Fund. Currently the scholarship fund supports partial scholarships to attend the *Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management* at the Heller School of Public Policy and Management at Brandeis University and the *Surgeons as Educators* course hosted by the American College of Surgeons. Since 1995, the Alley-Sheridan Fund has provided 265 scholarships to education training programs.

Nina Starr Braunwald, MD

Nina Starr Braunwald, MD
Braunwald Research and Fellowship Grant

Nina Starr Braunwald (1928-1992) was the first woman to be certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Throughout her professional life, Dr. Braunwald was an active academic surgeon in all aspects—clinical, academic, and research. Eugene Braunwald, MD, with his family, friends, and colleagues, established the TSFRE Nina Starr Braunwald Research Grant and Fellowship Awards in memory of his wife. The Nina Starr Braunwald Fund is dedicated exclusively to research fellowship awards and research project grants for young women in academic cardiac surgery.

Carolyn E. Reed, MD

Carolyn E. Reed, MD
Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship

Dr. Carolyn E. Reed was a thoracic surgeon, an educator and a successful researcher, who died early and before her retirement. To honor the memory of Dr. Reed and continue her commitment to education and innovation, the TSFRE, in conjunction with Women in Thoracic Surgery (WTS), established the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship. This fellowship allows women cardiothoracic surgeons to travel to another institution to learn a new technology, foster collaboration between surgical investigators and provide a new innovation to their home institution.

2015 TSFRE Annual Donor Honor Roll

TSFRE is extremely grateful to its annual donors who have given gifts of any amount between 07/01/14-12/31/15.

$15,000 +

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* *Donor is soft credited for a third party contribution*

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