The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
56th Annual Meeting
REGISTRATION + HOUSING

NEW ORLEANS
January 25–28, 2020

REGISTER TODAY!
sts.org/annualmeeting
Join Us in New Orleans

Thought-provoking lectures, practice-changing science, and hands-on instruction from renowned experts—all this and more awaits you in “The Big Easy” at the STS Annual Meeting. No other meeting offers more translational science that you can take home and put into practice.

Whether you’re an experienced surgeon, just starting your career, still in training, or a member of the surgical team, you’ll find dozens of sessions targeted at keeping you relevant in the rapidly evolving field of cardiothoracic surgery.

Exciting New Educational Sessions will cover transcatheter aortic valve replacement in low-risk patients, building a thoracic robotics program, artificial intelligence/machine learning approaches for risk prediction, lymphatic intervention after congenital heart surgery, and how to train residents today so that they can thrive in 2030.

Updates on the Next Generation STS National Database will be provided during Monday’s plenary session, prior to the Chamberlain Papers and the Presidential Address by Robert S.D. Higgins, MD, MSHA.

A new Keynote Lecture, as well as a symposium focusing on diversity and inclusion, honor Vivien T. Thomas, the surgical technician who helped pioneer the anastomosis of the subclavian artery to the pulmonary artery.

Tuesday’s C. Walton Lillehei Lecture will be given by Bartley P. Griffith, MD, who has developed the world’s first wearable artificial lung system.

The program has been expanded to include more content for critical care/allied health professionals, ensuring that all members of the surgical team can benefit from attending the meeting.

“As cardiothoracic surgeons, it’s an honor to work in a field where we have such an incredible impact in saving the lives of patients with heart and lung diseases. We welcome and cherish the opportunity and look forward to learning how to enhance that impact through the programming at the STS Annual Meeting. We are patient-focused, quality-based, and mission-driven!”

Robert S.D. Higgins, MD, MSHA
President

Arrive Early for the Coding Workshop

The 2-day STS Coding Workshop, which will be held immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, will provide all members of the cardiothoracic surgical billing team with strategies to achieve the maximum possible reimbursement. The Coding Workshop will take place Friday and Saturday, January 24–25, at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. View the program and register at stso.org/codingworkshop.
## Schedule at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Industry-Sponsored Satellite Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>STS University (Session I)</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Break / Visit Exhibits</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>STS University (Session II)</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Break / Visit Exhibits</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Break / Visit Tech-Con Exhibits</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tech-Con: Adult Cardiac Track I</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Break / Visit Exhibits</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tech-Con: General Thoracic Track I</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch and Learn</td>
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<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tech-Con: Adult Cardiac Track II</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Break / Visit Tech-Con Exhibits</td>
<td>Educational Sessions</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tech-Con: Joint Session</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Opening Ceremony</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Viven T. Thomas Lecture</td>
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<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Exhibit Hall Opening Reception</td>
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<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Jeopardy Championship</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Poster Presentations</td>
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<td>Industry-Sponsored Satellite Activities</td>
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### EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

- **Sunday**: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- **Monday**: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday**: 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
## Program Outline

### FRIDAY January 24

- **3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**
  - Registration

### SATURDAY January 25

- **6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
  - Registration
- **7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**
  - STS University (Session I)
- **8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**
  - BREAK
- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**
  - STS University (Session II)
- **10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**
  - BREAK—Visit Tech-Con Exhibits
- **11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**
  - Tech-Con Adult Cardiac: Ischemic, Heart Failure, and Atrial Fibrillation
  - Tech-Con General Thoracic: Potpourri
- **12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
  - Tech-Con Adult Cardiac: Lunch & Learn
  - Tech-Con General Thoracic: Lunch & Learn
- **1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
  - Tech-Con Adult Cardiac: New Technologies in Aortic and Structural Heart Disease
  - Tech-Con General Thoracic
- **3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
  - BREAK—Visit Tech-Con Exhibits
- **3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**
  - Tech-Con Joint Session: Keynote Lecture and Shark Tank
- **5:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.**
  - Tech-Con Reception

### SUNDAY January 26

- **7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**
  - Registration

- **7:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**
  - Failures, Successes, and Resilience in Research (organized by Women in Thoracic Surgery)
  - Managing Esophageal Surgery Complications
  - Multidisciplinary Care in Cardiac Surgery
  - MyTube: Adult Cardiac Video and Expert Panel Session
  - MyTube: Congenital Video and Expert Panel Session
  - MyTube: Pushing the Limits of Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery and Avoiding Pitfalls
  - Utilizing the STS National Database in Your Daily Practice

- **10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
  - Adult Cardiac Surgery SOS: How to Get Out of Tough Situations
  - Congenital Cardiac Surgery SOS: How to Get Out of Tough Situations
  - Residents Symposium: Transitioning from Training to Practice
  - State-of-the-Art Management of Pulmonary Embolism
  - STS/CATS: Surgery for Advanced Stage Cancer—When Is Out of Bounds Not Out of Bounds?
  - STS/SCA: Cardiac and Thoracic Enhanced Recovery after Surgery
  - The Annals Academy: The Editor’s Pick—Top Papers and Why

- **12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.**
  - LUNCH
  - Residents Luncheon

- **12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.**
  - Evolving Impact: TAVR in Low-Risk Patients—Results of the Evolut Low Risk and PARTNER 3 Trials
  - Adult Cardiac: Advanced Heart Failure
  - Adult Cardiac: Arrhythmia/Atrial Fibrillation
  - Congenital: Adult Congenital Heart Disease
  - General Thoracic: Basic Science Research
  - Meet the Experts: STS/ACS Thoracic Surgery Verification
  - Using the STS National Database for Research
  - What’s New in Esophageal Cancer

- **3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**
  - Opening Session
    - 3:15 p.m.
      - Welcome
    - 3:30 p.m.
      - Vivien T. Thomas Lecture: Clyde W. Yancy

- **4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**
  - Opening Reception in STS Exhibit Hall
    - 4:45 p.m.
      - Jeopardy Championship

- **7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**
  - President’s Reception: Mardi Gras World

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Separate ticket required

sts.org/annualmeeting  •  Agendas and speakers subject to change
MONDAY January 27

6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Registration

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Exhibit Hall

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
• Career Navigation and Development: How to Take Your Career to the Next Level
• Congenital: Pediatric Congenital I
• Introduction to Cardiothoracic Health Services Research
• STS/EACTS: Bicuspid Aortic Valve Repair with Aortic Root Aneurysm—Techniques and Outcomes
• STS/ESTS: Getting Out of Trouble—Rescue Surgery after Common Nightmare Situations
• STS/ISHLT Joint Symposium
• What’s New in Thoracic Oncology

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
• Adult Cardiac: Basic Science Research

9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Plenary Session

9:15 a.m.
The Next Generation STS National Database: The Future Is Now

9:30 a.m.
J. Maxwell Chamberlain Memorial Papers

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
BREAK—Visit Exhibits and Scientific Posters

11:00 a.m.
Introduction of the President: Joseph A. Dearani

11:15 a.m.
Presidential Address: Robert S.D. Higgins

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
LUNCH—Visit Exhibits and Scientific Posters

1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
• Adult Cardiac: Aorta I (Dissection)
• Adult Cardiac: Ischemic

TUESDAY January 28

6:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Registration

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Exhibit Hall

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
• Adult Cardiac: General
• Adult Cardiac: Mitral/Tricuspid Valves
• Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Approaches for Risk Prediction in Cardiothoracic Surgery
• Avoiding Practice Extinction: Staying Relevant with New Technologies and Techniques
• Congenital: Pediatric Congenital III
• General Thoracic: Lung Cancer Disparities and Innovation
• General Thoracic: Mediastinal/Pulmonary
• Rescuing the Right Ventricle: Prevention and Intervention
• STS/CSCS: Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting Surgery for the Pragmatic Idealist

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
BREAK—Visit Exhibits and Scientific Posters

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Plenary Session

9:30 a.m.
Award Presentations

9:45 a.m.
C. Walton Lillehei Lecture: Bartley P. Griffith

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
• Building a Thoracic Robotics Program
• Critical Care Research
• Health Policy Forum: Navigating the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System and Alternative Payment Models in 2020
• Meet the Experts: Cardiothoracic Surgery in the Military
• Meet the Experts: Current State of Fetal Cardiac Intervention
• Quality Improvement in Cardiothoracic Surgery
• Reoperative Adult Cardiac Surgery
• STS/CHEST: Optimizing Clinical Care for the Lung Cancer Patient—From Screening to Diagnosis and Treatment
• STS/SVS: The Aorta Service Line
Registering early for the Annual Meeting guarantees your spot at one of the most highly anticipated cardiothoracic surgery events in the world. Your registration fee provides you with access to dozens of educational sessions covering all aspects of the specialty, as well as entrance to the Exhibit Hall, where you can discover the newest products and services available.

Additionally, you will receive complimentary access to Annual Meeting Online, a web-based video presentation of most sessions offered at the Annual Meeting that will provide the opportunity to earn significantly more continuing medical education credit beyond what you can earn at the live meeting.

Ticketed events (Tech-Con, the President’s Reception, and hands-on STS University courses) are available at an additional cost. For more information, see page 8.

Register online at [sts.org/annualmeeting](http://sts.org/annualmeeting).

### Pricing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STS 56th Annual Meeting</th>
<th>Member Surgeons and Physicians</th>
<th>Associate Member Non-Physicians</th>
<th>Candidate and Pre-Candidate Members</th>
<th>Non-Member Physicians</th>
<th>Non-Member Non-Physicians</th>
<th>Non-Member Residents, Fellows, and Medical Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>Early Bird (through November 19)</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,125</td>
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<td>Standard (November 20 – January 23)</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$375</td>
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<td>$1,250</td>
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<td>Onsite (January 24 – January 28)</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>$475</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
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**Ticketed Events**

Must be registered for the STS Annual Meeting

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Member Surgeons and Physicians</th>
<th>Associate Member Non-Physicians</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tech-Con</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<td>President’s Reception</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<td>STS University Course (each)</td>
<td>$225</td>
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### Questions?

Contact Experient, the Society’s official registration partner.

**Toll free:** 800-424-5249

**International callers:** 00-1-847-996-5829

**Email:** sts@experient-inc.com

### Cancelation Policy

All registration cancelation requests must be made in writing and emailed to meetings@sts.org by January 17, 2020. Requests for refunds will not be honored if submitted after that date. A processing fee of $100 will be charged for all cancelations.

“We’ve condensed the meeting to provide a more efficient and productive learning experience for our attendees. There will be a ton of provocative and practice-enhancing content this year.”

*David Tom Cooke, MD*

*Chair, Workforce on Annual Meeting*
Registration

Not an STS Member? Apply Today and Save on Registration!

Membership in the Society comes with a host of benefits—including significantly reduced registration fees for the Annual Meeting.

Applications, including third-party verification, for Associate, Candidate, and Pre-Candidate Membership must be submitted by January 17, 2020, in order to be considered prior to the Annual Meeting. Those approved for membership can then register at member rates.

STS membership also includes a complimentary subscription to The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, exclusive access to a cardiothoracic surgery e-news briefing, deeply reduced fees on live and online learning activities, eligibility for discounted participation in the STS National Database, and networking with the largest group of cardiothoracic surgeons worldwide.

To apply, visit sts.org/membership.

NOTE: Applications for Active and International Membership will be considered at the next Board of Directors meeting on January 26, 2020; pending members do not receive discounted Annual Meeting registration rates.

Registration Categories

Please note that STS members are NOT automatically registered for the Annual Meeting.

**STS Surgeon Members:** STS Active, International, and Senior Members

**STS Associate Member Physicians (Non-CT Surgeons):** STS member physicians who are not eligible to become Active, International, Candidate, or Pre-Candidate Members

**STS Associate Member Non-Physicians:** STS members who are PhD research scientists, physician assistants, perfusionists, nurses, nurse practitioners, practice administrators, data managers, and others with an interest in cardiothoracic surgery

**STS Pre-Candidate and Candidate Members:** Pre-Candidate: Medical students and general surgery residents who are STS members. Candidate: Cardiothoracic surgery residents/fellows/trainees who are STS members

**Non-Member Physicians:** Non-member cardiothoracic surgeons and other physicians with an interest in cardiothoracic surgery

**Non-Member Non-Physicians:** Non-member PhD research scientists, physician assistants, perfusionists, nurses, nurse practitioners, practice administrators, data managers, and others with an interest in cardiothoracic surgery

**Non-Member Residents, Fellows, and Medical Students:** In order to register for the STS 56th Annual Meeting, non-member general surgery residents and cardiothoracic surgery residents/fellows must complete a registration certification form during the online registration process. Non-member medical students must upload a copy of their current student identification card to the registration website.

Important Dates

- Early Bird Registration Deadline . . . November 19, 2019
- Hotel Reservation Deadline . . . January 2, 2020
- Standard Registration Deadline . . . January 23, 2020

sts.org/annualmeeting • Agendas and speakers subject to change
Ticketed Events

STS University

SATURDAY JANUARY 25
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. (Session I)
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (Session II)

Kick off your Annual Meeting experience with hands-on learning from the specialty’s top experts. STS University is the only educational event scheduled for Saturday morning, allowing you to participate in these unique courses without missing any other great sessions.

STS University will provide you with knowledge that you can take back home and put to use right away. After attending the mitral valve repair course at the 2019 Annual Meeting, one participant said, “I am more prepared with both skills and judgment to perform mitral repairs in my practice.”

Choose from among the following courses; each will be offered twice on Saturday morning.

| Course 1: | VATS Lobectomy |
| Course 2: | Complex Chest Wall Issues for the Thoracic Surgeon: Reconstruction after Tumor Resection, Pectus Deformities, and Rib Fractures |
| Course 3: | Robotic Lobectomy |
| Course 4: | Aortic Root Enlargement Procedures and Aortic Valve Leaflet Reconstruction |
| Course 5: | NEW! ECMO Cannulation |
| Course 6: | Essentials of TAVR |
| Course 7: | Mitral Valve Repair |
| Course 8: | Valve-Sparing Aortic Root Replacement—Reimplantation |
| Course 9: | Minimally Invasive Aortic and Mitral Surgery |
| Course 10: | Transseptal Puncture for Surgeons |

“STS University is an opportunity for you to see procedures in action. The hands-on practice you’ll get will help prepare you for implementing such techniques in the future.”

Thomas K. Varghese, MD, MS
Co-Chair, STS University Task Force

Tech-Con

SATURDAY JANUARY 25
11:00 a.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Now part of the Annual Meeting—and offering the option to claim CME credit—Tech-Con will give you an up-close look at the new frontier in cardiothoracic surgery. The adult cardiac surgery sessions will focus on evolving techniques and technology in structural heart disease, ischemic heart disease, heart failure, and atrial fibrillation. Topics such as intraoperative tumor localization, nanotechnology, artificial intelligence, and robotic techniques will be covered in the general thoracic surgery sessions.

Exciting additions to the Tech-Con program include two Lunch and Learn sessions, during which industry experts and surgeon moderators will discuss the latest products and technology. (Note: The Lunch and Learns are non-CME activities.)

The day’s final Tech-Con session will include a keynote lecture by Mark S. Cohen, MD, a noted expert on innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as the always popular Shark Tank presentations.

President’s Reception

SUNDAY JANUARY 26
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Experience the thrill of Mardi Gras with a behind-the-scenes look at how artists and architects build show-stopping parade floats during the President’s Reception at Mardi Gras World, held in honor of Robert S.D. Higgins, MD, MSHA. The reception will be held right in the studio where these floats are designed and assembled, and tours will be offered. Enjoy New Orleans cuisine and an open bar while mingling with friends and colleagues from around the world. Tickets for this exclusive event can be purchased when you are registering for the meeting; don’t delay, as space is limited.
Travel Information

Air Travel

The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY) serves all major airlines and is approximately a half-hour drive from the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, depending on traffic. Visit flymsy.com for more information.

Ground Transportation

Attendees are responsible for their own transportation from the airport to their hotels or the convention center. Options include:

**TAXIS:** To hail a taxi, visit one of the booths located on the ground level outside of Baggage Claim Belts 1 and 14. Taxi rides cost $36 for one or two passengers; for three or more passengers, the fare is $15 each.

**RIDE SHARES:** If you are taking an Uber or Lyft, meet your driver on the ground level of the Short-Term Parking Garage, which can be accessed by crossing the pedestrian crosswalk located outside of Baggage Claim Belt 6.

**SHUTTLES:** Airport shuttle tickets can be purchased at booths located throughout the Baggage Claim area or ahead of time at airportshuttleneworleans.com. The rate is $24 one way or $44 roundtrip.

**PRIVATE CARS/LIMOUSINES:** Visit one of A-Airport Limousine’s kiosks in the Baggage Claim area to request a sedan, SUV, or limousine for up to eight passengers. You also can schedule a pickup at airportlimousineneworleans.com. Rates range from $58 to $118, depending on the type of vehicle and number of passengers.

**CAR RENTAL:** STS has negotiated special car rental rates from Hertz. Reservations may be placed at hertz.com or by calling 800-654-2240 from within the United States and Canada; from international locations, call 00-1-405-749-4434. To receive the discounted STS rate, mention convention number (CV#) 04RS0008 when making your reservation.

International Attendees—Act Now to Secure Your Visa

If you are not a US citizen and plan to attend the STS Annual Meeting, advance planning is critical. Attendees from outside the United States may need to apply for a visa at the American Embassy, Consulate, or other visa-issuing office in their country of origin. Please begin your visa application process as soon as possible. Learn more at travel.state.gov.

If you need a personalized letter of invitation, visit sts.org/annualmeeting and complete the Letter of Invitation Request Form. After you have submitted the form, you’ll receive a letter signed by STS CEO/Executive Director Elaine Weiss, JD, stating that you are cordially invited to attend and participate in the Annual Meeting. If you have questions about the visa invitation letter, contact meetings@sts.org.

You also can request a customized justification letter at sts.org/annualmeeting. The letter, signed by STS President Robert S.D. Higgins, MD, MSHA, describes the benefits of attending the Annual Meeting and potential return on investment for your organization.

**PLEASE NOTE:** STS cannot promise that you or your colleagues will receive a visa, nor can it change the decision of any governmental agency should your application be denied.

“What I love about the STS Annual Meeting is touching base with friends and colleagues you haven’t seen in a long time—finding out what they’ve been working on and new techniques they’re applying. That peer-to-peer learning is really important.”

Jennifer S. Lawton, MD
Vice Chair, Annual Meeting Program Task Force
**STS Hotels**

Exclusive discounted rates are available when you reserve your hotel through the Society’s room blocks! Book early for the best selection at your choice of five outstanding downtown New Orleans hotels.

Making your reservation through the official STS room blocks helps the Society continue to leverage the best possible pricing for its members. Staying in the STS hotels also may help you engage in peer activities and networking at the hotels during the meeting. You must register for the Annual Meeting before you can book your housing.

Shuttle service will be provided between the convention center and the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Marriott New Orleans, and Sheraton New Orleans. Both the Courtyard New Orleans Downtown/Convention Center and New Orleans Downtown Marriott at the Convention Center are within walking distance of the convention center.

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**QUESTIONS?**

Contact Experient, the Society’s official housing partner.

**Toll free:** 800-424-5249

**International callers:** 00-1-847-996-5829

**Email:** sts@experient-inc.com

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Society has engaged Experient as the only approved Official Registration and Housing Provider for the STS Annual Meeting. Please be wary of any other companies ostensibly offering registration and/or housing assistance for the STS Annual Meeting. Such companies typically imply that they are working with STS, but in reality are unauthorized. Please contact the Meetings & Conventions Department at meetings@sts.org if you are contacted by anyone other than Experient.