studying congenital CT surgery techniques at UK/European institutions.

Since our parent Association, the AATS, underwrites all operational costs of the Foundation, 100% of all individuals’ contributions go directly to Foundation programming. The AATS Graham Research Foundation is *driving leadership, learning, and innovation in the pursuit of excellence*!

For more information on the AATS Graham Foundation, please visit [http://aatsgrahamfoundation.org](http://aatsgrahamfoundation.org).

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### The Western Thoracic Surgical Association

#### Applications for Membership

The WTSA is now accepting Applications for Membership online for Active as well as Candidate membership status. Visit the WTSA Web site at [www.westernthoracic.org](http://www.westernthoracic.org) to read the complete membership eligibility requirements and to initiate an online application.

**Active Member**

$325.00 annually, plus $50.00 initiation fee

Applicant must meet all membership criteria, including but not limited to:

- Reside within or have completed a cardiothoracic residency training program within the geographic limits of the Association.
- Have been engaged in the practice of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery for at least three years following completion of postgraduate training. If a candidate completed his/her thoracic surgical residency or a one-year clinical fellowship in an institution within the geographic limits of the Association, such completion may count towards one of the three years of practice.
- Have a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in his or her respective state or province, and have a current appointment on the surgical staff of a hospital with no reportable action pending which could adversely affect such applicant’s staff privileges at any hospital.

**Candidate Member**

$100.00 annually

Applicant must meet all membership criteria, including but not limited to:

- Be matched or enrolled in either a cardiothoracic surgery education program accredited by the Residency Review Committee for Thoracic Surgery under the authority of the ACGME or a program approved for cardiothoracic surgery education by the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada—or their equivalency—from within the Association’s geographic limits. Individuals who have completed their education in one of the above programs and are in the process of acquiring certification in cardiothoracic surgery by either the American Board of Thoracic Surgery or the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada also are eligible to apply for Candidate membership. Individuals who trained outside the Association’s geographic limits who are now residing within the Association’s boundaries but do not yet have three years in practice may also apply for Candidate membership.

An application must include the following uploads: a photo; a complete curriculum vitae with bibliography; and, for Active applicants, the 3 most significant articles that s/he personally wrote. The application must be completed and submitted online by March 1, 2016, and all support letter(s) (three for Active applicants, one for Candidates) uploaded by that applicant’s sponsor(s) by March 31, 2016, in order for the applicant to be considered for election to membership at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

### WTSA 42nd Annual Meeting

**Save the Date!**

June 22-25, 2016

Hilton Waikoloa Village

Waikoloa, Hawaii

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### The American Board of Thoracic Surgery

#### ABTS Announcement

The American Board of Thoracic Surgery’s Maintenance of Certification program was adopted 7 years ago. Since that time, there has been a continuous evaluation in the Board’s thinking about the overall process, based upon internal discussions and input from our diplomates.

These inputs resulted in our decision to migrate from a purely knowledge-based multiple-choice exam, using a Pearson Testing Center, to a Mastery Learning Process, using a -SESATS format. Diplomates, enrolled in this year’s (2015) 10-year MOC process, will fulfill their Part III requirement by completion of a home or office-based secure learning exam, following the instructions on the ABTS Web site.

In brief, you will be directed to a secure Web site, administered by Software Secure. The only special computer hardware needed will be a camera for your home or office.