

WTS International Traveling Fellowship



The Women in Thoracic Surgery (WTS) in partnership with the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) and the Korean Women in Thoracic Surgery announces the WTS International Traveling Fellowship.

Purpose

The purpose of this fellowship is to encourage international exchange of surgical scientific information, enhance networking, mentorship and professional development for women in thoracic surgery. This fellowship will be awarded to cardiothoracic surgeons in countries other than the US and Canada. Preference will be given to applicants from developing countries. The scholarship, in the amount up to \$12,000 each, provide the fellow with an opportunity to visit female cardiothoracic surgeons in the US or Canada and participate in their clinical, teaching and research activities. It will also allow the fellow to attend and participate in the educational opportunities and activities of the AATS Annual Meeting.

This fellowship is sponsored by the Sungjuo Foundation, a non-profit, welfare foundation established in 2009 by the South Korean entrepreneur Kim Sung-Joo to promote and support women throughout the world.

Basic Requirements

We offer 2 scholarships per year, one to a Korean cardiothoracic surgeon and the second to a woman in practice in any other country. The following requirements need to be met by the candidate:

- Applicants must be graduates of schools of medicine who have completed their surgical training.
- Applicants must have been in surgical practice, teaching, or research for a minimum of one year at their intended permanent location, following completion of all formal training (including fellowships and scholarships).
- Early career applicants are deemed more suitable than those who are serving in senior appointments.
- Applicants should be enthusiastic, personable, and possess good communication skills
- The Fellowship must be used in the year for which they are designated, and cannot be postponed.

- Applicants who are awarded Fellowships will provide a full written report of the experiences provided through the fellowship upon completion of their tour.
- Applicants must submit a fully completed application form provided by the WTS on its website. The application and accompanying materials must be submitted in English.

Activities

The Fellow is required to spend a minimum of two weeks in the USA:

- To attend and participate in the annual meeting of the AATS, which will be held in Boston, MA (April 29–May 3, 2017)
- To visit at least one and up to 3 medical centers in USA -before or after the annual AATS meeting- to share clinical and scientific expertise with the local host.

The Fellow candidate will submit with her application a proposal for the surgical centers to be visited, depending on her special interests. It is not required but it is preferred that the candidate established contact with the potential host in the US. WTS will work with the Fellow -once selected- to help finalize or establish professional contact with the host in the USA according to the proposed plan. The academic and geographic aspects of the itinerary would be finalized in consultation and mutual agreement between the Fellow and designated representatives of WTS. Her spouse/family are welcome to accompany the successful applicant at their expenses. There will be opportunities for social interaction in addition to professional activities.

Financial Support

WTS will provide a sum up to \$12,000 U.S. to each successful applicant who will also be exempted from the registration fees for the annual AATS meeting.

The fellow is responsible for all travel and living arrangements. WTS representatives will consult with the Fellows about the centers to be visited in the USA, the local arrangements for each center, and other advice and recommendations about travel schedules. The Fellow is to make her own travel arrangements in North America, because doing so will allow her to take advantage of reduced fares and travel packages for travel in USA. At the time of the selection, each fellow will be awarded \$5,000 to finance the initial travel expenses. At the completion of the travel, and submission of the written report about their experience, each fellow will receive the additional reimbursement of travel and housing expenses. All receipts of travel and housing expenses need to be submitted with the written report to receive payment. A daily stipend of \$100 will be provided for each day away from home and up to \$2,100.

Selection Process

The Korean Fellow will be selected by the Korean Women in Thoracic Surgery and the other International Fellow will be selected by WTS after review and evaluation of the applications. Applications will be graded on strength of candidate, institutional support, and potential for career impact. Preference will be given to applicants from developing countries. The awardee will be recognized at the WTS reception during the AATS Annual Meeting.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is February 28, 2017. The successful applicant will be selected and notified by March 15, 2017.

Please send applications for this fellowship in the form of a single PDF to Molenad@mskcc.org

Application Form

Applications consist of the following items, in this order, submitted as a single PDF document to molenad@mskcc.org:

1. Application Form
2. Essay of no more than 500 words stating how the applicant fulfills the requirements, her reason for applying for the fellowship and the proposed itinerary during her stay in the USA. The proposed plan should include the Institution the candidate wishes to visit and the reason why that Institution will enhance her professional career. A list of WTS members who are available to serve as potential hosts can be found at <http://wtsnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/WTS-International-Fellowship-Host-List.xlsx>
3. A current curriculum vitae up to 10 pages in length, including medical school, postdoctoral education, and past hospital appointments and complete bibliography.
4. One letter of reference from the department chair. The letter should include an overall evaluation of the applicant, including assessment of the applicant's performance in various positions occupied. The applicant's ability to satisfy the criteria of the fellowship requirements should be specifically addressed.
5. A detailed budget including all proposed travel and housing expenses.