The first JATS Asian travelling fellowship

Mission:
The Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery Asian Travelling Fellowship offers travel grants to individuals presenting papers at the 70th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery to be held in Sapporo during the period between September 26th and 29th in order to foster the development and exchange of diverse ideas in the fields of cardiovascular, thoracic and esophageal surgery.

Grant-making Focus:
Established in 1948, the Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery is the oldest association of thoracic surgery in Japan. The Association has been a leading organization to cradle the development of heart surgery in Japan beginning in the latter half of the 1950s. It is also an incontrovertible fact that the Association has supported the development of thoracic surgery and esophagus surgery from the outset.

We are interested in researches that investigate the contemporary outlook and explore the future of thoracic surgery. We support innovative, thought-provoking investigations. Open discourse is essential to advance research activity and mutual understanding; therefore, our grant-making focuses on the international dissemination of ideas. With our support, the work of individuals reaches new audiences, from specialized to general, and creates opportunities for critical dialogue between various nations.

Priorities:
Our priorities are to:

- Provide opportunities to create and develop a research about cardiovascular, thoracic and esophageal surgery that will contribute to their creative, intellectual, and professional growth at crucial or potentially transformative stages in their careers.
- Support their efforts to take positions, develop new forms of expression, and engage
debate.
• Help them communicate their work in the international realm and reach new and wider audiences.

Criteria for Evaluation
Given our priorities, we believe researches of the greatest potential should fulfill the following criteria:

• Originality: the basic or clinical research demonstrates an innovative, challenging idea; critical, independent thinking; advanced scholarship; a new or creative approach

• Potential for impact: the research makes a meaningful contribution to discourse and/or to the field; expands knowledge; is a catalyst for future investigation; raises awareness of an unexplored issue.

Eligibility:
• Our grant-making focuses on medical doctors in the Asian countries. Please note we require that presentations be disseminated in English.

• Applicant must submit an abstract for presentation at the 70th Annual Meeting.

• When the first author is not available to attend an annual meeting of JATS for any reason, one of his/her co-authors is eligible to receive the travel grant alternatively. An appropriate document for commitment is required to submit to the JATS headquarter on site.

Grant amount:
• Travel grant: ¥100,000/person, 10 presenters in total.

• Accommodation and registration fee are provided separately.

The application for the grant must include:
• Brief curriculum vitae including a record of the applicant’s achievement, (e.g., publications, presentations, patents, honors, etc.)

• Statement, which describes the general area of research being pursued by the applicant.

• A letter of recommendation from established researcher or physician from their institution.

• Copy of the abstract submitted for presentation in the meeting.
How to Apply:

· Eligible candidates interested in applying for a grant from the JATS Asian travelling fellowship must submit an Application Form which is available on our website and must be submitted online no later than September 15th, 2017.

Selection of grant recipients:

The Committee for international affair will select potential candidates and recommend them to the Board of Directors for further consideration.

The board chair shall announce award winners of the grants by posting on the JATS website and also by a snail mail.