On Friday, May 17th, the inaugural Texas Heart Institute Cardiac Society Honors Summit will feature an afternoon and evening of education and celebration. Former chief fellow alumni Jay Aliota and Scott Greenberg will share cases in their fields of expertise: peripheral interventions and electrophysiology, respectively. Graduating fellow Briana Costello will share a couple of recent interesting cases from the Texas Heart Institute.

After the symposium, we will hold our annual THICS business meeting. At 3:30 pm, we begin our pinning ceremony – a time-honored tradition of complimenting and roasting our graduates and recognizing how much they have learned and accomplished. For the first time in THI history, the honors ceremony and awarding of diplomas will immediately follow the pinning ceremony event. We hope that this allows families and friends to synchronize their travel to Houston and the commemoration of our graduates.

Alumni are welcome to attend. Please join us for the symposium and business meeting; then stay for the fun! You can register here.

Broadening the Board

For the 2019-2021 term, the nominations for officers are:

President: Joggy George, MD
Vice-President: Mehran Massumi, MD
Treasurer: George Younis, MD
Members-at-large: Peter Ermis, MD, Jorge Escobar, MD, Sam Sheth, MD
President Emeritus: Patrick Hogan, MD

In addition, with the growing number of THI graduates in the Greater Houston area, we are looking to create a position on the board for a Greater Houston representative. We hope this will help increase our engagement with the local community, including social events, scholarship, and member participation. Please contact us if interested.

Lastly, we begin an era of committees to help expand the reach of THICS. Below are our anticipated initial committees and their responsibilities:

- **Social**: organize local events for networking and entertainment
- **Scientific**: assist with programming for the annual Honors Summit and organize events at national and regional meetings
- **Membership**: provide outreach and updates to THI members, including reminders about events and dues

The committees will report to the board for announcements in the newsletter and social media.
NEW FELLOWS

JAVID ALAKBARLI
A native of Azerbaijan, Dr. Alakbarli attended high school in Germany and trained at the University of Istanbul Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty before attending New York Presbyterian for his residency. He also speaks German, Russian, and Turkish.

JOSEPH ALLENCHERRIL
An accomplished musician and poet, Dr. Allencherril is a native Houstonian who attended Rice University and, for medical school and residency, Baylor College of Medicine. He is also interested in filmmaking, photography, programming, and web development.

PRIYANKA SEN
Dr. Priyanka Sen is a graduate of the THI adult cardiology fellowship program. We welcome her back for an Interventional Cardiology fellowship.

LAUREN GOLDEN DOLL
A Beaumont native, Dr. Doll pursued a BA at Harvard and a graduate degree in education from Johns Hopkins before attending medical school at Columbia and residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. She enjoys cooking healthier versions of traditional Southern dishes.

MICHAEL HERMELIN
An avid drummer who loves English Premier League soccer, Dr. Hermelin attended the University of Akron and enrolled at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. His residency was at the University of Washington.

JUAN NIEVES – RIVERA
Dr. Juan Nieves-Rivera completed his internal medicine residency at the University of Puerto Rico and is currently finishing his cardiology fellowship there. He will join the Heart Failure fellowship program here in July.

SUDEEP KUCHIBHOTLA
Born in Minneapolis, Dr. Kuchibhotla attended medical school at the University of Florida and residency at Tufts Medical Center. He enjoys basketball, tennis, and hiking.

MICHAEL “MITCH” TAN
A former University of Washington “lifer,” Dr. Tan attended UW as an undergraduate, medical student, and resident. He has a passion for basketball and weightlifting.

 message from the President

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discussions for our fellows and our annual THI Cardiac Society business meeting, the cardiology fellows’ pinning will be immediately followed by the Honors Ceremony and awarding diplomas.

Lastly, the THICS board will be restructuring to meet the requests of our members. We are looking to expand the board to include another at-large member from the Greater Houston area. In addition, we hope to initiate THICS committees (Social, Scientific, and Membership) as the organization continues to grow.

It has been an honor to serve as your president, and I anticipate great things for our Society in the years ahead!

Sincerely,

Wilson Lam

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 17, 2019
Texas Heart Institute Honors Summit

JUNE 7, 2019
2019 Perfusion Conference Honoring the 50th Anniversary of the World’s First Total Artificial Heart

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019
Advances in Critical Care