



**ASTS**  
American Society of  
Transplant Surgeons

# Fall 2025 Fellows Symposium

September 17–19, 2025 | The Kimpton Hotel Monaco in Pittsburgh, PA

## Wednesday, September 17, 2025

*Moderators: Fady Kaldas, MD, FACS and Kendra Conzen, MD*

Sheffield Ballroom

7:30 am - 8:30 am	<b>Breakfast – Sofia Ballroom</b>
8:30 am - 8:50 am	<b>Find your table/group</b>
8:50 am - 9:00 am	<b>Opening Remarks and Orientation: Setting the Stage for Fellow Symposium</b> Speaker: Fady Kaldas, MD, FACS   University of California, Los Angeles
9:00 am - 9:30 am	<b>ASTS Presidential Address</b> Speaker: James Markmann, MD   Penn Transplant Institute
9:30 am - 9:55 am	<b>Technical Pitfalls: Kidney</b> Speaker: Alex Zendel, MD   Hackensack University Medical Center
9:55 am - 10:20 am	<b>Technical Pitfalls: Pancreas</b> Speaker: Rachel Forbes, MD   Vanderbilt University Medical Center
10:20 am - 10:30 am	<i>Break</i>
10:30 am - 11:30 am	<b>Donor-Recipient Matching: Navigating Organ Offer Review and Selection</b> Introduction: Alex Zendel, MD   Hackensack University Medical Center Moderator: Chaya Shwaartz, MD   University of Toronto
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Artificial Intelligence in Transplantation: Promise and Practicality</b> Speaker: Henry Randall, MD   SSM Health Saint Louis University
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch Break – Sofia Ballroom</b>
1:00 pm - 1:25 pm	<b>Establishing a Robotic Kidney Transplant Program: Strategy, Training, and Team Building</b> Speaker: Michelle Nguyen, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona
1:25 pm – 1:35 pm	<b>Robotics – Q&amp;A</b>
1:35 pm – 2:00 pm	<b>The Business of Transplantation: Financial Principles for Surgical Leaders</b> Speaker: Tomoaki Kato, MD   Columbia University
2:00 pm - 2:10 pm	<b>The Business of Transplantation – Q&amp;A</b>
2:10 pm - 2:20 pm	<i>Break</i>
2:20 pm - 3:20 pm	<b>Advocacy in Transplantation: Policy, Equity, and Professional Engagement</b> Speaker: Debra Sudan, MD   Duke University Medical Center Speaker: Henry Randall, MD   SSM Health Saint Louis University Speaker: Amit Mathur, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona Moderator: Vidya Fleetwood, MD   Saint Louis University School of Medicine
3:20 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>Group Picture and Day 1 Wrap-up</b>
3:30 pm - 6:00 pm	<i>Break</i>
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>Pictionary Happy Hour – Rialto Rooftop</b> <i>Theme: 70s Transplant Origins</i>
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	<b>Dinner – Sofia Ballroom</b>

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### Thursday, September 18, 2025

*Moderators: Michelle Nguyen, MD, and Motaz Selim, MD*

7:30 am - 8:30 am	<b>Breakfast – Sofia Ballroom</b>
8:30 am - 8:40 am	<b>Second Day Overview</b>
8:40 am - 9:05 am	<b>Technical Pitfalls: Liver</b> Speaker: Fady Kaldas, MD, FACS   University of California, Los Angeles
9:05 am - 9:15 am	<b>Technical Pitfalls: Liver – Q&amp;A</b>
9:15 am – 9:50 am	<b>Transplant Oncology: Expanding Indications and Navigating Access</b> Speaker: Julie Heimbach, MD   Mayo Clinic Rochester
9:50 am - 10:30 am	<b>Complex Liver Transplantation Panel: Case-Based Learning in High-Risks Scenarios</b> Moderator: Chaya Shwaartz, MD   University of Toronto Panelist: Julie Heimbach, MD   Mayo Clinic Rochester Panelist: Fady Kaldas, MD, FACS   University of California Los Angeles Panelist: Amit Mathur, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona
10:30 am – 10:45 am	<b>Break</b>
10:45 am – 11:40 am	<b>Launching Your Transplant Career: Strategies for Success from Junior to Senior Faculty</b> Moderator: Vidya Fleetwood, MD   Saint Louis University School of Medicine Panelist: Anushi Shah, MD   Integris Baptist Medical Center Panelist: Anji Wall, MD   Baylor Simmons Transplant Institute Panelist: Amit Mathur, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona
11:40 am - 12:30 pm	<b>Interactive Case Review: Liver Offer Evaluation and Donor-Recipient Matching</b> Introduction: Chaya Shwaartz   University of Toronto
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>Lunch – Sofia Ballroom</b>
1:35 pm - 2:10 pm	<b>Optimizing Surgical Ergonomics: Wellness and Injury Prevention in the OR</b> Speaker: Sunil Geevarghese, MD   Vanderbilt University Medical Center
2:10 pm – 3:05 pm	<b>Agarwal Lecture</b> <i>Innovations in Transplantation: Surgical Ingenuity and Future Directions</i> Speaker: Lloyd Ratner, MD   Columbia University
3:05 pm – 3:20 pm	<b>Break</b>
3:20 pm - 3:50 pm	<b>Advances in Liver Preservation: Machine Perfusion (MP) and Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP)</b> Moderator: Motaz Selim, MD, MBBCh, MSc   University of Utah Panelist: Jennifer Yu, MD   Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis Panelist: Anji Wall, MD   Baylor Simmons Transplant Institute Panelist: Michelle Nguyen, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona
3:50 pm - 4:05 pm	<b>Panel Q&amp;A for Machine Perfusion (MP) and Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP)</b>
4:05 pm - 4:15 pm	<b>Overview of the TACC Fellowship Certification Pathway</b> Speaker: John Magee, MD   University of Michigan
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm	<b>Machine Perfusion Demonstration and Networking Session</b>
6:00 pm - 6:30 pm	<b>Break</b>
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	<b>Dinner – Sofia Ballroom</b>

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## Friday, September 19, 2025

*Moderator: Alex Zendel, MD and Lindsay Powell, MSN, DNP, FNP-C, BSN, ACNP-C*

7:30 am - 8:15 am	<b>Breakfast – Sofia Ballroom</b>
8:15 am - 8:40 am	<b>Pediatric Transplantation: Core Concepts for All Transplant Surgeons</b> Speaker: Debra Sudan, MD   Duke University Medical Center
8:40 am - 9:15 am	<b>Ethics in Selection Committee Decision-Making</b> Speaker: Robert Montgomery, MD   NYU Langone Transplant Institute
9:15 am - 9:50 am	<b>Selection Conference Ethics: Case-Based Q&amp;A and Discussion</b> Moderator: Anji Wall, MD   Baylor Simmons Transplant Institute
9:50 am - 10:00 am	<i>Break</i>
10:00 am - 10:45 am	<b>Culture and Leadership: Building Influence and Resilience in Transplant Teams</b> Speaker: Kendra Conzen, MD   University of Colorado
10:45 am - 11:00 am	<b>Culture &amp; Leadership – Q&amp;A Discussion</b> Moderator: W. Christian Crannell, MD   Vanderbilt University Medical Center
11:00 am - 11:25 am	<b>Fellowship Survey Insights and Discussion</b> Speaker: Michelle Nguyen, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona
11:25 am - 11:30 am	<b>Closing Reflections and Adjournment</b> Speaker: Michelle Nguyen, MD   Mayo Clinic Arizona

Sheffield Ballroom