



SCTS
The Society for
Cardiothoracic Surgery
in Great Britain &
Ireland



***Award Winners
SCTS – Ionescu
Fellowships 2020***



Report of the 2020 Annual SCTS-Ionescu fellowships

S Rathinam 27th February 2020

The Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery in Great Britain & Ireland (SCTS) invited applications for the annual portfolio of Fellowships sponsored by Mr Marian Ionescu. The broad range of the Fellowships were offered to all SCTS members to benefit - Consultants, all grades of Trainees, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals and Medical Students.

Marian Ionescu is a retired cardiac surgeon from Leeds. He is a surgical innovator and pioneer who introduced various techniques in cardiac surgery as well as invented the pericardial valve. After a successful cardiac surgical career he focused on mountaineering and has scaled most peaks in the world. Mr Ionescu has supported the SCTS with his donations to the society for educational activities for many years. His contributions over the years have enabled the SCTS-Ionescu University, SCTS-Ionescu Fellowships, the Perspectives in Cardiothoracic Surgery and recently the Ionescu Foundation courses.

SCTS was honoured and privileged to announce this annual round of application with Mr Ionescu's continued support to the wider cardiothoracic multidisciplinary community.

The applications were advertised in the SCTS website as well as by flyers to all the members. The deadline was the 15th January 2020.

All application were scored to the SCTS Scoring Matrix by a panel of SCTS Officers and the scores were averaged to rank the candidates. The final awardees were finalised by unanimous decision by the SCTS officers and education leads.

The Marian and Christina Ionescu Travelling Fellowship for a consultant :1 award, £10,000



Balacumaraswami Lognathen Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon from University Hospitals of North Midlands to visit Dr Keita Kikuchi in the Ichinomiya Nishi Heart Centre, Aichi, Japan to observe and learn technical aspects of multi vessel minimally invasive CABG using bilateral mammary artery conduits.

SCTS-Ionescu Consultant Team Fellowships : 2 awards, £15,000 each



Enoch Akowuah, Consultant Cardiac Surgeon in James Cook University Hospitals to visit Prof Doug Murphy in the Emory University School of Medicine Atlanta USA and Prof Czerny Prague to learn and develop robotic mitral surgery.



Apostolos Nakas, Consultant Thoracic surgeon in University Hospitals of Leicester to visit NYU Langone Health and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre, New York, USA, Duke University Medical Centre, North Carolina, USA and University Hospital Zurich, Switzerland to focus on robotic thoracic surgery, mesothelioma and minimally invasive thoracic surgery.

SCTS-Ionescu NTN Trainee Travelling Fellowship: 1 award, £10,000



Jason Ali, Royal Papworth Hospital specialist Registrar East of England Training Programme to visit the Duke University Medical Centre to learn from Prof John Haney on Cardiothoracic Transplantation and Mechanical circulatory devices. The trip will also focus on donor management and perioperative care.

SCTS-Ionescu Non-NTN Surgical Fellowships: 2 awards, £10,000 each



Saqib Qureshi Clinical Fellow in Nottingham City Hospital to support travel for a fellowship in Ottawa Heart Institute fellowship for holistic cardiac surgery including minimally invasive coronary and TAVI.



Alessia Rossi Senior Clinical Fellow St Bartholomew's Hospital London to learn minimal access Mitral (and aortic)surgery, focusing more on mitral valve surgery in the Heart Hospital Gaetano Paquinucci Massa under Dr Marco Solinas.

SCTS-Ionescu Non-NTN small travel awards: 2 award, £5,000 each



Anas Boulemden Senior Clinical Fellow in Nottingham University Hospital for a clinical immersion under Mr Ulrich Rosenthal in the Royal Brompton Hospital to learn complete aortic care pathway and technique of root and arch surgery including aortic adjunct procedures.



Florentina Popescu Clinical Research Fellow University Hospitals of Leicester to visit Toronto General Hospital for clinical immersion in Cardiothoracic Transplant under Prof Shaf Keshavjee.

SCTS-Ionescu Nursing & Allied Health Professional Fellowships: 2 awards, £5,000 each



Paula Agostini Senior Physiotherapist Birmingham Heartlands Hospital and Senior Lecturer University of Birmingham to visit Alfred Hospital Monash University Melbourne and Auckland Hospital New Zealand to focus on enhanced recovery and prehabilitation.



Nehru Devan Senior SCP in University Hospitals of Manchester, Wythenshawe to visit Prof Robert Cerfolio's unit in NYU Longone Lung Cancer Centre. This visit will focus on understanding and assisting in Robotic assisted thoracic surgery.

SCTS-Ionescu Medical Student Fellowships: 2 awards, £500 each



Lauren Shipperbottom from the University of Birmingham to visit the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. The elective clinical immersion would cover cardiology and paediatric cardiac surgery under Prof David Barron.



Keeran Vickneson from the University of Dundee to visit National University of Singapore under Prof V Sorokin for a 6 week clinical immersion.

The Education committee would like thank Mr Ionescu for his benevolence and the opportunity to offer these valuable fellowships to our members.