Aim
A research fellowship offered for 4-6 months to young scientists and clinicians to visit the Department of Thoracic Surgery at the University of Leuven, Belgium, with the aim of getting an insight and special knowledge of clinical, translational or basic science research concepts or techniques, in the field of lung transplantation, not available at the home institution. The home institution should benefit from the research training when the applicant returns, by leading to research developments and activities back onsite. Furthermore, it may offer the opportunity of an additional clinical training.

Grant amount
15,000 EUR

Eligibility criteria
Trainee in Thoracic Surgery
Adequate skills in English
Applicant must be a member of ESTS
The program is open to both European and non-European based candidates.
After completion of the fellowship, the applicant must return to her/his home institution to apply the acquired skills; at the home institution appropriate facilities and resources must be available.

Application and Selection process
The Biology Club members (Brendon Stiles and Olivia Lauk), the Department Chief of Thoracic Surgery Leuven, Paul De Leyn, the Director of Education Nuria Novoa and the Treasurer Herbert Decaluwe will review the applications and will choose the candidate based on the originality and feasibility of the project.

The applicant must contact Dr Laurens Ceulemans before application (laurens.ceulemans@uzleuven.be) to discuss a possible research topic in the field of lung
transplantation and afterwards submit an outline of this project along with his/her CV (curriculum vitae) and bibliography. For the fellowship a supporting letter from the home institution is needed. Staff members will supervise the project in respect to their expertise.

**Reporting**

Results of the projects are encouraged to be published in the European Journal of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery. Fellowship applicants are expected to write a final report as well as a financial report.

**Applications**

Contact Dr Laurens Ceulemans (University Hospitals Leuven, Belgium; laurens.ceulemans@uzleuven.be) to discuss potential research topics before 20 January 2023

Short listed candidates for the Fellowship will be expected to present their project during the Biology Club session at the 31st European Conference on General Thoracic Surgery, Milan, Italy 4-6 June 2023.

Fellowship awardees are expected to write a final summary and a financial report and will present his/her research work during the next ESTS Annual Conference after completion of his/her fellowship.

**Applications to be sent by Wednesday 1 February 2023 to:**

Sue Hesford, Executive Director, ESTS

sue@estls.org.uk