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Message from the Assembly Chair

Welcome to the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly and our Spring Newsletter! This newsletter is full of information about the Assembly and all of our accomplishments in the past year. It is impossible to ignore the fact that for the second year in a row, we will not be able to meet in person as an Assembly, but I am very hopeful that 2022 will bring a return to more in person meetings and the opportunity to come together and celebrate our community's accomplishments. I am thrilled that we do have the opportunity to connect virtually in our 2021 International Conference, which, as always, brings the very best opportunities to hear the latest in research, clinical care and health care policy while allowing for attendees to connect and interact as we have all gotten better at online platforms in the past year. We will have our annual Pulmonary Circulation Assembly meeting on May 5 at 5pm ET and I look forward to seeing you all on zoom!

Our Program Committee Chair and Chair-Elect had put together a truly tremendous program for our Assembly and brought a real enthusiasm to developing the junior membership's role in the Program Committee. I wish I had the opportunity to thank Elena Goncharova and Brian Graham in person for their dedication and hard work, but I will do it in this newsletter instead! Thank you both!

Our Early Career Working Group headed by Rebecca Vanderpool has been quite busy this year and brought great online programming to our early career members and also to our social media accounts. I am excited about the apprentice program as an opportunity for more people to get to know how our Assembly and ATS work.

Speaking of online content, Jarrod Barnes has been keeping our website up to date and working with Jason Ellinoff on some well attended journal clubs. I have participated in some myself and found the format to be very easy to use and really enjoyed the opportunity to engage with colleagues near and far in timely – and much appreciated – scientific discussions.

As a fellow, junior investigator and now as a faculty member, the PC Assembly has provided me with a home where I can receive mentorship, critical feedback, opportunities to serve and a network around the world of peers and friends. We have worked to continue to provide these opportunities virtually in the past year so that we can continue to serve our members and provide relevant content throughout the year. I encourage you to get involved and be excited about the 2022 International Conference. Please engage with our Assembly through social media, through online journal clubs, through participation in committees and, most importantly, through submitting your best science for presentation in 2022!

On a last note, it has been an honor to serve as your Assembly Chair for the past two years and work with you all. I will pass the virtual baton to Tim Lahm at our Assembly meeting and am very excited to see the Assembly grow and progress in the future.

Sincerely,
 Anna Hemnes



Editor: Anna Hemnes, MD

Assembly on Pulmonary Circulation (PC) Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 5, 2021
 5-7 PM EST

[Register Now](#)



PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Elena A. Goncharova, PhD, Chair and Brian B. Graham, MD, Chair-Elect

There have been major challenges with switching to a virtual format.

We have programmed for the 2021 conference:

- 2 scientific symposia which are interactive
- 1 scientific symposia which is pre-recorded/on demand
- 1 post-graduate course
- 1 meet-the-expert session

We reviewed 269 abstracts, about 60% of the number from last year.

The top scoring abstracts were programmed into 2 interactive mini-symposia, one basic/translational and the other clinical (9 abstracts each). The remainder were programmed into 8 thematic poster sessions.

ATS 2021 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY ON PULMONARY CIRCULATION

Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Time (EST)
Sunday, May 16, 2021			
A5	CLINICAL CONTROVERSIES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION: A PRO/CON DEBATE FROM BEST ABSTRACTS	Scientific Symposium	10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Tuesday, May 18, 2021			
ME13	WHO GROUP 3 PULMONARY HYPERTENSION: TO TREAT OR NOT TO TREAT	Meet the Experts	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
C7	BEYOND VASCULAR RESIDENT CELLS: ONE NEEDS MANY PIECES TO PLAY AN ORCHESTRA	Scientific Symposium	10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Wednesday, May 19, 2021			
D3	COME TOGETHER - CLINICAL ADVANCES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION: LESSONS FROM BEST ABSTRACTS	Mini Symposium	8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Wednesday, June 9, 2021			
PG9	PULMONARY HYPERTENSION IN HEART FAILURE WITH PRESERVED EJECTION FRACTION: A CLOSER LOOK AT THE LEFT HEART	Postgraduate Course On-Demand	2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

SESSIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Time (EST)
Sunday, May 16, 2021			
A1	REHABILITATION AND COVID-19: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES	Scientific Symposium	8:00 am - 9:30 am
A11	ATS PRESIDENT'S SYMPOSIUM: CAN RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN RESPIRATORY HEALTH BE ELIMINATED?	Scientific Symposium	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Monday, May 17, 2021			
B1	MIND THE GAP: ENDING GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN CRITICAL CARE	Scientific Symposium	6:00 am - 7:30 am
B7	BREAKING NEWS: CLINICAL TRIAL RESULTS IN PULMONARY MEDICINE	Scientific Symposium	10:00 am - 11:30 am

(Continued on Page 3)

Recorded

K1	VACCINES ON THE HORIZON: IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE AND POLICY – Kristen Feemster, MD, MPH, MSHP	Keynote Series	On-Demand
K2	BREATHING NEW LIFE INTO RESEARCH AND PRACTICE WITH SEX AND GENDER SCIENCE – Cara Tannenbaum, MDCM, MSc	Keynote Series	On-Demand
K3	CRISIS COMMUNICATION IN A RESPIRATORY PANDEMIC: THE COMPLICATED INTERSECTION OF MEDIA, DATA, AND POLITICS – Vinay Gupta, MD, MPA, MSt	Keynote Series	On-Demand
K4	THE CLIMATE GAP: CONNECTING EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY TO ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE – Rachel Morello-Frosch, PhD, MPH	Keynote Series	On-Demand

ATS 2021
May 14-19

Showcasing
breakthrough research
in respiratory care.

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WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Jarrod Wesley Barnes, PhD, MSc, Web Director

The Pulmonary Circulation Web Editorial Committee is made up of a mixture of pulmonologists and research scientists that are interested in understanding and curing pulmonary vascular disease. The goal of the Pulmonary Circulation Web Editorial Committee is to disseminate knowledge and information through use of the website and social media platforms. Over the past year, we have been active in streamlining the website and social media to ensure seamless alignment for capturing and promoting key content including Journal Clubs and Podcasts.

The Pulmonary Circulation Assembly Journal Club has created exciting new content with webinars and important journal recaps with expert commentary. Upcoming and past Journal Clubs can be viewed on the [Journal Club webpage](#). In addition, you can use this website to reserve your seat for the journal club presentations. We encourage submissions for potential articles or topics for the future! This is a great way for early career professionals to build their CV. Please feel free to contact one of the journal club editors: Drs. Jason Elinhoff (elinhoffj@cc.nih.gov), Andrea Frump (anfrump@iu.edu), Daniel Lachant (daniel_lachan@urmc.rochester.edu) or Roberto J. Bernardo, MD, MS (Roberto-Bernardo@ouhsc.edu) Ke Yuan, PhD (Ke.Yuan@childrens.harvard.edu) if you are interested.

We also have interests in Podcasts and would like to increase our numbers using this platform. Past podcasts can be viewed on the [PC Podcast webpage](#). If you are interested in helping with the Podcasts or have ideas you would like to contribute, please contact Jarrod Barnes (barnesj5@uab.edu) for more information.

For those that would like to know more about what's going on in Pulmonary Circulation, please follow us on twitter [@ATS_PC](#) to get real time tweets about 'everything' Pulmonary Circulation as well as the latest updates and information on upcoming conferences, Journal Clubs, Podcasts, etc.

We are looking to grow our Web Team! If you are interested in getting involved with the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly and the Web Committee on any level please contact the PC Web Director, Jarrod Barnes (barnesj5@uab.edu) or the Early Career Investigators Working Group Chair, Rebecca Vanderpool (vanderpoolrr@email.arizona.edu) for more details.

JOURNAL CLUB REPORT

Jason Elinoff, MD, Journal Club Editor

On behalf of the PC Journal Club co-editors, I would like to thank the presenters, authors and discussants that participated in our webinar presentations in 2020. In addition, we would like to sincerely thank Bridget Nance for all of her assistance in orchestrating the final product. We featured a variety of excellent studies this past year (see below for details) and we could not have done it without enthusiastic colleagues who generously volunteered their time. This year, we welcomed two new co-editors to the PC Journal Club, Drs. Ke Yuan and Roberto Bernardo, and also saw a noticeable increase in our live, online webinar audience!

The goal of the current PC Journal Club format is to allow investigators, particularly early-stage career scientists, the opportunity to present their recent papers. Through the ATS webinar platform, members of the online audience are able to participate in a stimulating but informal group discussion with leaders in the field. The journal club co-editors and ATS support staff assist with the organizing and scheduling so that **the authors/presenters really only focus on the article presentation**. A typical presentation is no more than 20-25 minutes. Thus, the bulk of the webinar is a moderated discussion with the authors, invited expert discussants and the online audience.

We are always looking for authors interested in presenting their exciting science! If you would like to present your recently published work, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of the co-editors: Jason Elinoff (elinoffj@cc.nih.gov), Roberto Bernardo (Roberto-Bernardo@ouhsc.edu), Andrea Frump (anfrump@iu.edu), Daniel Lachant (daniel_lachant@urmc.rochester.edu), and Ke Yuan (Ke.Yuan@childrens.harvard.edu).

2020 Journal Club Highlights

Feb 2020 (Co-Sponsored with the Respiratory Structure and Function Assembly)

Article: "Exercise Pulmonary Hypertension Predicts Clinical Outcomes in Patients with Dyspnea on Effort" J Am Coll Cardiol. 2020 Jan 7;75(1):17-26.

Presenter: Dr. Vikramjit Khangoora

Participating Author(s): Drs. Jennifer Ho and Gregory Lewis

Expert Discussant(s): Drs. Rebecca Vanderpool, Marc Simon and Steve Nathan

Aug 2020

Article: "How Support of Early Career Researchers Can Reset Science in the Post-COVID19 World" Cell 2020 Jun 25;181(7):1445-1449.

Presenter: Dr. Erin Gibson (First Author)

Participating Author(s): Drs. Shannon Macauley and Naresha Saligrama

Expert Discussant(s): Drs. Rebecca Vanderpool, William Oldham and Meghan Cirulis

Oct 2020

Article: "Long Noncoding RNA TYKRIL Plays a Role in Pulmonary Hypertension via the p53-Mediated Regulation of PDGFRb" Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2020 Nov 15;202(10):1445-1457.

Presenter: Drs. Chanil Valasarajan and Christoph Zehendner (Co-first authors)

Participating Author(s): Dr. Soni Pullamsetti

Expert Discussant(s): Drs. Sebastien Bonnet and Stephan Chan

Dec 2020

Article: "Sex Differences in Right Ventricular-Pulmonary Arterial Coupling in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension" Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2020 Oct 1;202(7):1042-1046.

Presenter: Dr. Khodr Tello (First author)

Participating Author(s): Dr. Tim Lahm

Expert Discussant(s): Drs. Rebecca Vanderpool and Corey Ventetuolo

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Rebecca Vanderpool, BS, MS, PhD, Chair

The Early Career Working Group in the PC Assembly worked hard to stay connected in the virtual world in 2020. We all missed the typical in person conference experience and networking from the international conference. We embraced the virtual Zoom sessions to plan a number of events including a journal club focused on discussing how to support early career researchers in the time of COVID and a virtual Happy Hour focused on Women in Pulmonary Vascular Disease. We joined the ATS Apprenticeship Program to help facilitate early involvement of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in the PC assembly leadership. One goal in 2021 is to continue to increase the awareness of articles and researcher from the early career researchers in the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly.



Working Group members:

Rebecca Vanderpool, Imad Al Ghoulah, Umar Soban, Rali Parth, Andrea Frump, Laszlo Farkas, Nick Rahaghi, Ke Yuan, Andy Sweatt, Zhiyu Dai, Francois Potus, Raju Reddy, Vineet Agrawal, Will Oldham, Aaron Trammell, Maryam Sharifi-Sangiani and Megan Cirulis.

The American Thoracic Society

is pleased to announce our new

2020 ATSF Fellows



David Itiro Kasahara
Arrowhead Pharmaceutical

Abebaw Yohannes
Azusa Pacific University

Elena Goncharova
University of California, Davis

Jose Antonio Castro Rodriguez
Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile

David Griffith
National Jewish Health

Alexander Sy
Wake Forest Health

Susmita Chowdhuri
School of Medicine,
Pulmonary/Critical Care and Sleep

Samya Nasr
University of Michigan

Adam Benjafield
ResMed

Richard Casaburi
Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation
at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Obianuju Ozoh
Department of Medicine, College of
Medicine, University of Lagos

Lida Hariri
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard
Medical School

Yuksel Peker
Koc University School of Medicine

Usha Raj
University of Illinois at Chicago

Basak Coruh
University of Washington

James Donohue
University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill

Marcus Jones
Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande
do Sul

Lisa Maier
National Jewish Health

Blanca Himes
University of Pennsylvania

Yvonne Jean Huang
University of Michigan

R. Scott Stephens
Johns Hopkins University

Timothy Girard
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Motoo Yamauchi
Department of Respiratory Medicine,
Nara Medical University

Jennifer Ingram
Duke University

MeiLan Han
University of Michigan

Sanjay R. Patel
University of Pittsburgh

Marianna Sockrider
Baylor College of Medicine

Micheala Aldred
Indiana University

Max Salfinger
University of South Florida College of Public
Health & Morsani College of Medicine

Peter Calverley
University of Liverpool

Angela Rogers
Stanford University

Rodney Britt
Nationwide Children's Hospital

L. Keoki Williams
Wayne State University School of Medicine
& Center for Individualized and Genomic
Medicine Research (CIGMA), Henry Ford
Health System

Praveen Akuthota
University of California San Diego

Sunil Sharma
West Virginia University

Erin Wetherbee
University of Minnesota / Minneapolis VAHCS

Jacqueline Kagima
Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

Ammar Saadoon Alishlash
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Nandita Nadig
Medical University of South Carolina

Daniel Obaseki
Obafemi Awolowo University

Julie A. Barta, MD
Korman Respiratory Institute at Thomas
Jefferson University

Sivaraja Subramaniam
Delta Care Hospital

Dr. Neeraj Vij
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine,
Precision Therapeutics Inc
& VIJ Biotech

The ATS Fellow designation is a mark of distinction, conferring recognition on members for their accomplishments, dedication, and contributions to the Society as well as to the fields of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine.

The ATS Fellow application period will open in May 2021. The new ATS Fellows will be announced this Fall and recognized at ATS 2022.

For more information about the ATS Fellows, visit our website:

<https://www.thoracic.org/members/membership/ats-fellows.php>