

Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group

The Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group (PBTS WG) started in January of 2019 and is charged with enhancing the value of ATS membership for basic and translational scientists, specifically Ph.D. scientists. The PBTS WG consists of thirty-six members that are drawn from each of the fourteen ATS Assemblies. The WG meets monthly *via* Zoom to discuss issues of importance to (1) non-clinical ATS members (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) and (2) research-intensive physician-scientists. During the past year, the PBTS WG has been extraordinarily active in developing programs for its constituency as well devising strategies to recruit Ph.D. scientists to the Society. Membership in the WG is a great opportunity to advocate for basic science interests within the ATS and to network with Ph.D. leaders in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine research.

Here are some of the WG's ongoing efforts to advocate for Ph.D. scientists:

- **PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Collaboration Events.** The PBTS WG co-hosts the annual SIC Reception for Ph.D.s and Other Basic Science Researchers at the International Conference.
- **Awards.** A PBTS WG Awards Subcommittee was established to identify and nominate worthy basic and translational scientists (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) for the annual Respiratory Health Awards.
- **Seminar.** With the goal of highlighting Ph.D. scientists and innovative methods/techniques in a seminar format, the Seminar Subcommittee holds two to three seminars per year with co-sponsorship from ATS Assemblies. Each seminar includes the presentation of a novel research technique, preferably by an early career Ph.D. scientist, followed by discussion.
- **Survey.** To better understand the needs of Ph.D. scientists, we shall be distributing a survey to all 2023 ATS International Conference attendees who spend fifty percent or more of their time in research but are not ATS members.
- **Equity and ATS Opportunities.** The Equity and ATS Opportunities Subcommittee is working on emphasizing a parity in the membership and International Conference fee structure for Ph.D. scientists. This Subcommittee has also worked with the Health Equity and Diversity Committee to promote diversity.
- **Research Integrity.** There is a need for formally recognized research integrity training for basic and translational researchers as scientific organizations increasingly require training be specified in grant applications. The Research Integrity Subcommittee, in collaboration with the Education Committee, was formed with the goal of promoting the basic principles of Research Integrity through education, information dissemination, and collaboration along with making integrity a part of all ATS members' research practices, procedures, and processes.
- **Assembly Project.** On behalf of the PBTS WG, Bethany Moore, Ph.D., A.T.S.F. spearheaded the development and submission of an Assembly Project through the Assembly on RSF entitled "Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities and ATS Membership". This project addressed the perception that many Ph.D. scientists contribute to the mission of sub-specialty clinical divisions within Departments of Medicine and of Pediatrics, yet barriers exist for them to attain tenure-track faculty status. A manuscript on this topic will be published in *Annals of the ATS*.

If you are interested in becoming involved in PBTS WG Subcommittees or if you have any issues you feel that WG could effectively address, please e-mail either Samantha Yeligar (samantha.yeligar@emory.edu) or James Londino (james.londino@osumc.edu).