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Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

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IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Assembly Chair.....	1-2
Planning Committee.....	3
Program Committee Report.....	3-4
Section on Genetics and Genomics.....	4
All Sessions.....	5-7
Web Committee Update.....	7
Early Career Working Group.....	8
Get Involved.....	8
All Int'l Relations Working Group	9
PhD Taskforce.....	9
All Membership Meeting.....	10
AII/RCMB Reception/ Dinner.....	10
Assembly Twitter.....	10
Assembly/Committee Projects.....	11
Mentorship Meeting Spot.....	11
Neo Natal Interest Group Meeting.....	12
Early Career Professionals	12
Science and Innovation Center.....	13
ATS Foundation.....	14
Members Matter.....	15
Member Profile Update.....	15
Grant Awardees.....	16
BVALS.....	16
Exhibitors Fundraising for ATS.....	17
BEAR Cage.....	17
Patient Education Material.....	18
Official ATS Documents.....	18

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear Assembly Colleagues,

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as Chair of the Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation Assembly (AII) of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) for the past two years. As chair, I have discovered the large cadre of inspiring people in AII. The AII Assembly has over 3000 members and is the third largest assembly overall in the ATS, and the largest ATS assembly with a significant proportion of basic and clinical researchers. We are also perhaps the most geographically diverse, boasting almost 50% international members. This is in part due to our organization-leading efforts in supporting international trainees scholarships to the ATS annual meeting, as well as our new honorific International Early career award. The ATS has now formalized its association with the Asia Pacific Society of Respiriology. Dr. Ross Vlahos is our assembly representative for this new effort. The philanthropic nature of our Assembly is also evident through our ability to raise enough money to fund two new ATS research grants. We also were the assembly with the highest number of new donors to support the ATS foundation. I personally thank all the members that have contributed to the important effort. I am also pleased to be involved with our active and vibrant Section on Genetics and Genomics ably led by Dr. Blanc Himes (see Dr. Himes comments below).



Mitchell A. Olman, MA, MD

This was a year for growth and exciting new initiatives in several areas, both at the assembly and ATS levels. These include international conference programming, faculty/fellow mentoring, web-based journal clubs and the AII Asthma website update. Structured collaborative efforts over the past 5 years with the RSF and RCMB assemblies, has generated the SCIENCE CORE and SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS OF THE YEAR sessions at the international conference. Many thanks go out to Drs. Greg Downey and Bruce Levy for spearheading this effort for our assembly. Most notably, we should give thanks to the Scientific Program Committee Chairs, Drs. Anne Sperling and Andrew Fontenot and the entire Program Committee as we are now on the other side of a complete, and by most accounts, improved, programming methodology for the International Conference. Through their efforts, over 700 abstracts were reviewed and programmed.

(Continued on page 2)

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (*Continued*)

The collaborative efforts ensured that the best overall program is put forth for the members of the ATS. To date we have had a very robust, and above expected, registration from attendees, as well as industry support for the Washington DC conference. This bodes well for the conference as a whole.

There has been an expansion of the Science and Innovation Center at the International conference, with Dr. Stokes Peebles representing our assembly in this multi-assembly endeavor. There will be both scientific and/or career management-related presentations and refreshments. I encourage all of you to visit the Science and Innovation Center during the conference to relax, meet colleagues, recharge with refreshments, and listen to award-winning presentations of interest to our members. As we hope to program presentations geared toward PhD's and other researchers at this center, check your conference program carefully. This the first of what I hope will be many modifications to the conference in order to support the needs of researchers in a joint multi-assembly effort led by Dr. Beth Moore from AII. Please keep your eye out for an upcoming survey and use this chance to have your voice heard. We are listening! This year, a number of our members have been recognized with ATS-wide keynote presentations and other ATS-wide awards. As a further example of cross-assembly collaboration, please remember to register for the joint AII/RCMB reception to network with new and old friends and colleagues (<https://www.xpressreg.net/register/THOR0517/start.asp>). As this event is supported solely by ticket purchase and our own assemblies' philanthropy, please consider contributing financial support to the joint AII/RCMB Assembly Dinner and Reception to help sponsor trainees. Such efforts will ensure the ongoing success of our assembly by bringing in future members (<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/about/assembly-donations.php>).

Based upon our leading mentor-matching program spearheaded by the ever-enthusiastic Early Career Working Group, the mentoring program continues to be ATS-wide. For junior members and trainees, please register as a mentee, and for senior members please sign up online to offer your mentoring services as this is your chance to help and influence the future of our organization (<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/ats-mentoring-programs.php>).

The planning committee, led by Dr. Gus Matute-Bello, has had a banner year. A large number of AII-initiated and AII-partnered projects were approved ATS wide. This is a vital assembly and ATS-wide mission. Please be confident that the ATS-wide leadership is working hard to improve the efficiency of the submission/approval/publication process, while maintaining the clinical practice impact, and the intellectual rigor. There will be a video soon that outlines the submission process and I encourage you to look at the video (<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/about/assembly-project-application-resource-center.php>) and contact the planning committee early in the process to help focus your efforts, and with any questions and/or ideas. I encourage you to email Gustavo Matute-Bello, MD, AII Planning Chair (matuteb@u.washington.edu)

We have expanded our web-based journal clubs, led by Drs. Praveen Akuthota and Matt Exline. This is an exciting area of growth for our Assembly as we have engaged both senior authors/experts and the junior presenters in both formal presentations of the work, and in open online Q and A sessions. The journal clubs are now archived and can serve as educational tools going forward (<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/aii/journal-club/>). In order to update the AII-based asthma website, Drs. Mark Aronica, Praveevn Akuthota and others have led a team of US and international experts to define novel and timely topics in asthma, and to present and discuss illustrative cases. These too are archived, will be updated on an ongoing basis and contain important links to other asthma-related information (<http://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/asthma-center/>).

In order to improve communication regarding assembly and ATS news and activities and curtail the number emails, we will be sending out brief monthly Newsletters from the assembly leadership. Check your Inbox!

The ATS leadership is interested in your opinion. As we gain ground in our financial security as an organization, NOW is the time to develop a strategic growth plan. It is essential that you respond to the upcoming ATS members survey as the results from this survey will guide the ATS organizational strategic priorities over the next 3-5 years.

In conclusion, I am honored to have served the AII assembly for 2 years. It has been a both a great joy and a learning experience to work with all the smart and dedicated individuals in our assembly. I look forward to continuing my organizational service on the ATS-wide long range planning committee. Hope to see you soon in Washington DC.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Gustavo Matute-Bello, MD, Chair

This has been an outstanding year for the AII Planning Committee! The Planning Committee's main responsibilities include reviewing and ranking ATS project proposals submitted to AII, and assisting AII members who wish or are in the process of writing a project proposal. Writing project proposals is an excellent opportunity to make an impact in your area of interest. The projects proposed to AII range from clinical guidelines to workshop reports, and may be focused on clinical practice, clinical research, or basic research. Some examples of ongoing projects being supported by AII include workshop reports on lung proteomics and metabolomics, respiratory health disparities, standards for the use of animal models for the pre-clinical assessment of pulmonary fibrosis, and obesity and metabolism. In addition, new projects include ATS/ERS guidelines on severe asthma, a workshop on high throughput sequencing, and a research statement on lung precision medicine.

We encourage all members of AII to submit project proposals and we are available to assist with each step of the proposal development process. Please feel free to contact me or any member of the committee if you are interested in either writing a project proposal or participating in the committee.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Anne I. Sperling, PhD, Chair & Andrew Fontenot, MD, Chair-Elect

On behalf of the Program Committee I am proud to report completion of an outstanding program for the 2017 ATS Annual Conference. This was due to the superb program proposal submissions from our Assembly Members, the new abstract submission and organization system and our excellent and enthusiastic Program Committee members. The AII Program Committee for the 2016-2017 cycle included 39 members from around the world who provided rich expertise in the broad scientific and clinical topic areas spanning the range of interests in the AII assembly. Over the summer, our group worked together to program major symposia, sunrise seminars, meet-the-professor sessions, and post-graduate courses. The AII Program Committee again worked closely with all the other assemblies to co-sponsor a large number of programs. Further, with the RCMB and RSF program committees we co-sponsored this year's Science Core sessions.

Together, the Program Committee reviewed and programmed 655 abstracts. These abstracts were programmed into 6 mini-symposia, 7 poster discussion sessions, and 18 thematic poster sessions. One hundred colleagues agreed to help in chairing sessions. We invited a mix of junior and more established colleagues in most sessions with broad international representation. On average, we invited one facilitator for 5-8 abstracts in the thematic poster sessions to ensure that each presenter will have ample opportunity to interact with experts in the field and that the facilitators have manageable commitments

It has been my honor and privilege to chair the AII Program Committee this past year. I would like to thank the Program Committee members for all of their enthusiasm and hard work. Their work and dedication will assure ATS 2017 to be a great success.

(Continued on page 4)

The Dr. Andrew Fontenot has been wonderful to work with this year as our assembly program committee chair-elect. I am certain that the AII Program Committee is in great hands as he assumes its leadership in May with Dr. Ben Medoff as his Chair-Elect.

Please remember that is never too early to start building our conference program for 2018. If you are an AII Member and would like to be part of developing and shaping the AII Program for future conferences, there are several ways to get involved. The Call for Proposals for Scientific Symposia, PG Courses, Sunrise Seminar's and Meet the Professor Sessions for ATS 2018 will appear shortly after the ATS 2016 conference (at the beginning of June 2017), so please submit your best ideas and feel free to circulate beforehand. Putting together a successful program benefits from the participation of all the assembly members, the program committee, experts in the field, and the outstanding ATS annual meeting staff! Please join us in this effort.

Lastly, Andrew and I would like to thank the ATS annual meeting staff. They do an outstanding job every year on coordinating the entire process. It is their expertise, experience, guidance, and dedication that assure the tradition of excellence that we have come to expect from the annual meeting.

I hope you enjoy ATS 2017 and I look forward to seeing you in Washington D.C.!

SECTION ON GENETICS AND GENOMICS REPORT

Co-chairs: Craig P Hersh, MD and Blanca E Himes, PhD

The Section on Genetics and Genomics, which is housed in AII but includes members from several ATS assemblies, we are working on increasing its number of active members and hosting more events related to the use of omics techniques to better understand pulmonary disease processes and achieve precision medicine in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine.

Kaity Allen, Brian Cade, Rachel Kelly, and Chris Rider worked on increasing our web presence, via the ATS website itself and social medial. If you haven't done so already, follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ATSSGandG/> and Twitter @ATS_GG. To learn more about some of our members, visit our new Featured Researchers page: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/sections/gg/featured-researchers/>

We hosted four journal clubs, which you can view on the ATS website. A popular one this past year was "Innate Immunity and Asthma Risk in Amish and Hutterite Farm Children" by Michelle Stein, Cara Hrusch, Justyna Gozdz and colleagues that appeared in the August 4th, 2016 issues on the New England Journal of Medicine. The full presentation can be found here:

<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/sections/gg/journal-club/innate-immunity-asthma-risk-amish-hutterite-farm-children.php>

If you have suggestions for future papers, reach out to our journal club organizers: Katie Steiling and Tiffanie Jones.

In addition to journal clubs, this year we began hosting podcasts. These allow us to have conversations and interview experts on topics that are broader in nature than those contained in a published paper. For example, an interesting podcast organized by Jose Gomez on Biologic Therapies for Severe Asthma can be found at:

<https://www.thoracic.org/about/ats-podcasts/biologic-therapies-for-severe-asthma.php>

We welcome your suggestions for other topics that are of interest to you.

ATS 2017 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY ON ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION SESSIONS

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Friday, May 19, 2017			
PG2	HOW TO USE 'OMICS TO STUDY LUNG DISEASE	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Saturday, May 20, 2017			
PG13	FLOW CYTOMETRY IN HUMAN AND MOUSE LUNGS: FROM EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN TO ANALYSIS	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A6	BARBARIANS AT THE GATE: VIRUSES AND THE AIRWAY EPITHELIUM IN ASTHMA	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B86	"SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED": EXTRACELLULAR VESICLES AS MESSENGERS, BIOMARKERS, AND THERAPEUTIC VEHICLES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C5	EARLY LIFE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMING OF CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C87	DAWN OF THE DEAD: NECROPTOSIS IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF LUNG DISEASES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D89	OF MICE AND MEN: MECHANISMS OF GRANULOMATOUS INFLAMMATION	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Jointly-Developed Symposium			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A5	DOHAD: DEVELOPMENTAL ORIGINS OF HEALTH AND DISEASE AND THE CIRCLE OF LIFE FOR LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
A85	THE EXPOSOME CONCEPT: UNDERSTANDING IMPACT ON LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A91	CATCHING FIRE: THE GLOBAL HEALTH ISSUE OF HOUSEHOLD AIR POLLUTION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B91	IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE, SLEEP AND PEDIATRIC MEDICINE: HOW SOON IS NOW?	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C11	POLLUTION EFFECTS ON THE EPIGENOME IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Sunrise Seminars			
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
SS201	THE ROLE OF APOLIPOPROTEINS IN ASTHMA AND LUNG DISEASE	7:00 AM	8:00 AM

ATS 2017 - WASHINGTON, DC
SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Sunrise Seminars			
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
SS301	THE ROLE OF TRPV4 IN LUNG DISEASE: A TRP TO NEW THERAPEUTICS	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
MP401	BIOMARKERS IN SEVERE ASTHMA	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
MP501	DEVELOPMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF ABPA	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
MP601	PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCY AND PULMONARY DISEASE	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposium			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A13	ROLE OF DYSBIOSIS IN LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
A93	ROLE OF ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY IN LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C13	TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN ASTHMA	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C93	HOST DEFENSE AGAINST PATHOGEN INVASION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D12	MECHANISMS OF ALLERGIC AIRWAY INFLAMMATION	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
D92	BASIC MECHANISMS OF LUNG ALLOGRAFT REJECTION	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A21	IMMUNE MECHANISMS OF SARCOIDOSIS AND OTHER GRANULOMATOUS DISEASES	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B21	ALTERATIONS IN MICROBIOME AND VIROME IN LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B22	NEW INSIGHTS IN TYPE 2 INFLAMMATION	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B101	ADVANCES IN ASTHMA	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C21	OMICS IN LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D21	IMMUNE PATHWAYS IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY AND FIBROSIS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
D101	MECHANISTIC AND TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES IN COPD	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A31	MECHANISMS IN CYSTIC FIBROSIS AND OTHER BRONCHIECTATIC DISEASES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A32	ASTHMA AND ALLERGY CLINICAL STUDIES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A33	CLINICAL STUDIES IN OBSTRUCTIVE LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	4:15 PM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
A34	CLINICAL AND CELLULAR STUDIES IN ALLERGIC DISEASE	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A35	SEVERE ASTHMA	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A36	HOST DEFENSE AGAINST VIRAL INFECTION	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B31	PRE-CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES IN ASTHMA	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B32	THERAPEUTIC TRIALS IN ASTHMA	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B33	TH2 ENDOTYPE IN ASTHMA	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B34	GENETICS AND GENOMICS OF LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B35	TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES IN LUNG TRANSPLANTATION	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B36	MACROPHAGES: BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C31	BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES ON THE ROLE OF THE EPITHELIUM	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C32	LUNG INJURY, ARDS, AND SEPSIS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C33	NOVEL BIOMARKERS IN LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C34	MECHANISMS OF HOST DEFENSE IN BACTERIAL AND FUNGAL INFECTIONS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C35	ASTHMA AND ALLERGY CELLULAR INVESTIGATIONS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C36	ASTHMA AND ALLERGY: CASE SERIES AND REPORTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Matthew C. Exline MPH, MD, Chair & Praveen Akuthota, MD Co-Chair

In the past year, the AII Web Committee has been actively working on expanding the Assembly's digital footprint. In addition to the ongoing success of the ECWG's efforts in producing valuable Webinar Journal Club content, the Web Committee has been active in contributing to the ATS Podcast feed (newly rebranded "Breathe Easy"). A big high five to Dr. Jose Gomez Villalobos for his efforts on this front! We have been hard at work on the Assembly website's Asthma Center. Old content has been pared down and new content is starting to be added. Thanks to Dr. Mark Aronica and the rest of the web committee, we have several clinical cases up on the site, with several more in the landing pattern.

Praveen and Matt participated in the ATS-wide Web Committee meeting at the leadership summit last fall. At that meeting, the assembly website underwent its big yearly check-up and update. However, we are always trying to improve the site, so please feel free to contact us with any comments/suggestions!

Best,
 Praveen (pakuthota@ucsd.edu)
 Matt (Matthew.Exline@osumc.edu)

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Megan N. Ballinger, PhD & Beth Besecker, MD; Co-Chairs

The early career professionals working group is a diverse group of physicians and basic scientists working together to promote career development and facilitate networking and collaborations within the AII assembly as well as ATS as a whole. We recognize as a trainee it is difficult to become involved a large organization such as ATS, therefore we would like to facilitate these interactions and aid others in integrating into the ATS community and reaping the benefits of meeting and collaborating with world-renowned leaders in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. In order to accomplish these tasks, our group is involved in planning and organizing a variety of different events and opportunities for early career professionals that occur both during the international ATS conference as well as online in the form of generating webinars and podcasts that occur throughout the year.

At the international ATS meeting, our early career working group has been involved in the planning and execution of several events and programs to aid in the ATS experiences. We are involved in promoting and recruiting people to serve as both mentors and mentees in the ATS mentorship program. This is now an ATS wide initiative to foster connection between people early in their career pathway with those who can provide advice and wisdom on how to navigate careers in pulmonary and critical care medicine. In addition, our working group has been instrumental in planning the joint AII/RCMB networking reception which follows the business meetings at the ATS conference. This is a great opportunity to be able to meet and socialize with members of two of the largest assemblies within ATS in a relaxed, no pressure setting. In addition, our group is working with other committees at ATS to sponsor and promote several career development opportunities, including a series of faculty development sunrise sessions as well as programing 101 sessions for specific research topics within the science and technology center. Our group is also very passionate about promoting basic science research. We have worked within our assembly to establish an AII early career achievement award as well as scientific achievement award. New this year, we are specifically recognizing an international early career achievement award for those trainees who are currently or have recently completed their training outside of the United States.

Outside of the international meeting, our group has been working to develop additional networking and career development opportunities for early career professionals. We have had another successful year of programing online journal clubs. In addition, we have made a concerted effort to partner with other sections and assemblies to promote and host online journal clubs that would be of interest to our members. We have been working with the AII web committee to try and increase our presence on social media. We are currently working on establishing a podcast series which will highlight different members of our working group and how and why they decided to become involved in ATS and the benefits they have seen as a result of their affiliation with this society.

As you can see, our group has been very active this year, and we are involved in a variety of different events and programs which occur both at the international meeting as well as throughout the year. We are always looking for new members and are happy to include anyone who has an interest in getting involved or has an idea about ways to engage early career professionals.

Want to get Involved with the AII Assembly???

Individuals interested in becoming more involved in the AII assembly and the ATS as a whole are invited to attend a brief orientation meeting that takes place 30 minutes before the Assembly Member meeting. Participants will meet current junior and senior professionals involved in AII leadership, learn about the Assembly's structure and ways to participate and get involved.

For additional information, please contact the co-chairs of the AII Early Career Professionals Working Group

Megan Ballinger, PhD megan.ballinger@osumc.edu and Beth Besecker, MD beth.besecker@osumc.edu

AII INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Njira Lugogo, PHD & Ross Vlahos, PhD; Co-Chairs

The goal of the AII International Relations Committee is to promote and facilitate the involvement of international members in the AII-sponsored activities including symposia, poster sessions, and working groups for publications.

We were able to achieve this goal by involvement of international members in AII-sponsored events including:

- Chairing of Scientific Symposia
- Chairing of Poster Discussion Sessions
- Chairing of Thematic Poster sessions
- To have international members on the AII Program Committee
- To have international members on the AII Executive Committee

A particular highlight was securing the Scientific Symposium “2017-IC - A91 - CATCHING FIRE: THE GLOBAL HEALTH ISSUE OF HOUSEHOLD AIR POLLUTION” a proposal that came from the AII International Relations Committee and championed by Dr Greg Downey, Professor Peter Barnes and Associate professor Ross Vlahos.

Working Group Goals for Upcoming Year:

To continue to promote and facilitate the involvement of international members in the AII-sponsored activities including symposia, poster sessions, and working groups for publications.

Expected Products:

The end goal of the AII International Relations Committee is to enhance treatment and cures of lung diseases by bringing together high caliber researchers from around the world.

PhD TASKFORCE REPORT

Beth Moore, PhD, Chair

AII has a large proportion of PhD members and others not actively practicing clinical medicine, but highly involved in research. Meeting the needs of these members and identifying ways that ATS can add value for these members at the conference and throughout the year is essential for our ongoing vitality and scientific excellence. In response, Past President Dr. Atul Malhotra, with support from the RSF, AII and RCMB assembly chairs and the ATS Board of Directors, established a PhD Taskforce.

AII and RCMB are well represented in this group by Drs. Mariani, Moore, Randell and Ridge. There are plans for a meeting of the overall PhD Working Group, including members of other assemblies and ATS leadership, at the 2017 International Conference. The group seeks to clarify ways for the ATS to foster productive relationships between clinicians, clinical scientists, and basic scientists to best serve the needs of all members. There are strong working relationships between the PhD Working Group and the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) Committee, including mechanisms for attendees to provide input via an evaluation, so please visit the SIC.

If you have interest in serving on this committee, please contact Beth Moore (bmoore@umich.edu).

*Assembly on
Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation
Membership Meeting*

*Monday, May 22th
5:00pm-7:00pm
Grand Hyatt Washington DC*

*Independence Ballroom B-E
Independence Level 5B*

*Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation
and
Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology
Joint Reception*

*Monday, May 22th
7:00pm-10:00pm
Grand Hyatt Washington DC*

*Constitution Ballroom A
Constitution Level 3B*



Be sure to follow us at [@ATS_Assemblies](https://twitter.com/ATS_Assemblies) for news on webinars, deadlines, and other things you might have missed in your inbox!

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2018!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2018. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at www.thoracic.org.

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair Gustavo Matute-Bello, MD at matuteb@u.washington.edu.

For questions regarding submissions please contact Miriam Rodriguez at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: mrodriguez@thoracic.org.



Meet Your
Mentor
HERE! 

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2017 ATS International Conference in Washington, DC, the Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentee to meet.

The Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting spot will be located in the Renaissance, Washington DC Hotel in the Carnegie room on the (Ballroom Level). The room will be available from:

Friday May 19th to Tuesday May 23rd between 7AM. to 7PM

Light snacks and beverages will be offered throughout the day. Laptops and printers will be made available for use and don't forget to pick up your Assembly Mentoring Program Ribbon and Pin!

We hope you can join us at the Assembly Mentoring Program's Meeting spot!

Interested in joining a mentoring program? Visit our Assemblies homepage and click on ATS Mentoring Program to learn more or contact Melinda Garcia at mgarcia@thoracic.org

Please join us for the **Section on Genetics & Genomics (SGG) Membership Meeting** at the ATS International Conference in Washington DC.

SGG Co-Chairs: Craig P. Hersh, MD, MPH & Blanca E. Himes, PhD



FEATURING A SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY

Georgia Dunston, PhD
Howard University College of Medicine

Genomic Architecture of Brain Health in Addiction Medicine

Time: Sunday, May 21st 6:30-8:30 pm
Location : Renaissance Washington, DC
Downtown Hotel, Renaissance Ballroom
West A-B (Ballroom Level)



We help the world breathe®
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American Thoracic Society

PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS

Networking Exchange For Early Career Professionals

Saturday, May 20, 2017; 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Marriott Marquis • Washington D.C. University of DC/Catholic University (Level M1)

Free to all conference attendees

Attend a Workshop in the Center for Career (CCD)

Sunday, May 21 –Tuesday, May 23, 2017; 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Walter E. Washington Convention Center Hall D, (Middle Building, Level 2)

VISIT THE CCD TO PICK UP A ROAD MAP TODAY!



ATS 2017
*Where today's science
meets tomorrow's care™*

Washington, DC
May 19-May 24
conference.thoracic.org

SCIENCE & INNOVATION CENTER

Sunday, May 21 – Tuesday, May 23 • 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Wednesday, May 24 • 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Walter E. Washington Convention Center,
Hall D (Middle Building, Level 2)**

The Science & Innovation Center is a forum for scientists and researchers to meet, network, learn, and rest. The Science & Innovation Center is organized by representatives of the All, MTPI, RCMB, and RSF Assemblies.

DAILY

- Complimentary breakfast served at 7 a.m.
- Informal networking & rest area all day
- Light refreshments served at noon

SIC 101 SERIES

Interested in a scientific symposium, but need to brush up on the basics before venturing out to the cutting edge? Stop by for the SIC 101 series, where you can learn the basic principles underpinning high profile symposia at ATS 2017 Washington, DC.

Sunday, May 21

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

Genomics

Blanca Himes, PhD
University of Pennsylvania

11:15 a.m. – Noon

E. Cigarettes and Effects of Lung Immunology

Laura Crotty Alexander, MD
University of California,
San Diego

Monday, May 22

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

Ex Vivo 3D Lung Tissues

Melanie Königshoff, MD, PhD
University of Colorado, Denver

11:15 a.m. – Noon

RNA Seq/Single Cell RNA Seq

Max Seibold, PhD
National Jewish Health

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, May 21, and Monday, May 22

1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

Rising Stars of Research

Join the All, MTPI, RCMB, and RSF assemblies in celebrating their Rising Stars. Rising Stars are basic and translational science researchers at the assistant professor or early associate professor level making waves in their fields. Each Rising Star will give a 15 minute presentation on their work with time for Q&A at the end of the session.

Tuesday, May 23

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

Early Career Professionals Coffee Corner

Mentors and mentees are welcome to talk, collaborate, and caffeinate.

11:15 a.m. – Noon

Complementing NIH Funding: Philanthropic Organizations

Katherine L. Tuggle, PhD

Learn how to seek funding from a wider range of sources. Meet representatives from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

SIC Abstract Awards

Join us to celebrate the best scientific abstracts submitted to ATS 2017 Washington, DC by early career professionals.

ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

Thank you for participating in the [2016 ATS Assembly Challenge!](#)

The annual challenge taps into the grassroots community — and competitive spirit — of the ATS assemblies in support of the ATS Foundation. This was the closest Challenge yet!



Eileen G. Collins, PhD, chair for the Assembly on Nursing, receives Nursing's Assembly Challenge award from Dean Schraufnagel, MD, ATS Foundation Chair



Irina Petrache, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, receives RCMB's Assembly Challenge award from Dean Schraufnagel, MD, ATS Foundation Chair

The results are: the Assembly on **Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology** raised the most dollars with \$94,718; **Nursing** had the highest member participation with 20.49 percent; **Allergy Immunology & Inflammation** had the highest number of first-time givers in December with seven new donors.

Many members made gifts supporting the [Research Program](#) and other core programs in the final days of 2016. There was tremendous energy around the Challenge this year, with assembly chairs crafting special messages to their members. Most chairs sent two or more personal emails to their members during the Challenge.

Congratulations to the Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, Nursing, and Allergy Immunology & Inflammation assemblies! They will receive special recognition in ATS communications, at ATS 2017, and within their own assemblies.

The ATS Foundation would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their outreach and generosity during the Challenge. You provided a big boost to Foundation year-end giving campaigns—and a boost to our upcoming grant-making capacity for talented investigators. Thank you for your enthusiastic support!



Mitchell A. Olman, MD, chair for the Assembly on Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, receives All's Assembly Challenge award from Dean Schraufnagel, MD, ATS Foundation Chair

Truly, your energy, creativity, and participation were outstanding. Thank you for everything you do for the ATS, the Foundation, young investigators, patients, and respiratory health worldwide.

A special thank you from All chair Mitch Olman: "I would like to thank and acknowledge all All members who donated or will donate to the ATS Foundation so that our young colleagues can develop and secure bright futures. Out of 13 assemblies, we were the assembly with the second highest total donated, raising close to \$100,000, and we were the assembly with the MOST new donors."

To learn more about the ATS Foundation or to make a gift, visit foundation.thoracic.org.

ATS Membership Matters



Tell us!

As an ATS Assembly member your experience is central to inspiring others to join or renew their membership. **Tell us why ATS membership matters to you! What is its value to you?**

Send a sentence or two, or even a punchy quote, to MemberValue@Thoracic.org. We appreciate hearing from you within three weeks of the date of this newsletter. Be sure to provide your name, the name of your institution, city and state/country. We may use your quote in a future membership promotion!

Did you know that as an ATS member you:

- Receive a discount of **20%** (average) on education products at the ATS Store?
- Benefit from **FREE** ABIM and ABP MOC self-assessment products?
- Have access to **NEW member benefits** that include:
 - Significant discounts on Springer respiratory books (print copies), and FREE online access to this book series,
 - Copies of our new ATS pocket guidelines.

Save \$1,200 – or more – per year on ATS products and services over nonmember rates.

See why [members love the ATS!](#)

Assembly Members: Help Us to Help You!

Have you:

- ◇ Moved?
- ◇ Changed your title?
- ◇ Added a new specialty, credential or other information?
- ◇ Or perhaps we just do not have a complete profile for you!

Please take a minute to update your contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile today. And now you can also upload your PHOTO to your member profile!

Log in: <https://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php>

By keeping your profile current, you help us provide programs and services that are most targeted to you.

ANNOUNCING ATS FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM 2017-2018 GRANT CYCLE

The Research Program is excited to announce that it is now accepting letters of intent! In 2017, the Research Program has increased the number of available Unrestricted Grants for early career investigators. In addition to 15 Unrestricted Grants, the portfolio offers grants with Alpha-1 Foundation, American Lung Association of the Mountain Pacific, Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network, ResMed, PCD Foundation, Pulmonary Hypertension Association, and the ATS Foundation Tobacco-Dependence Research Fund, and 4 MECOR Awards. The deadline for letters of intent is June 6, 2017.

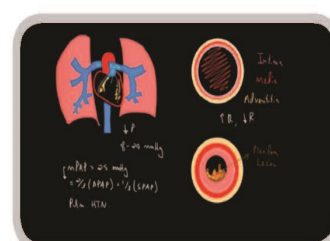
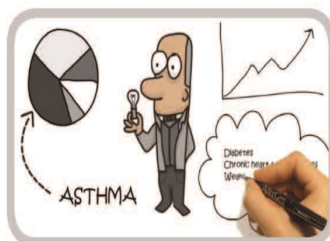
For more information on the current opportunities, please visit thoracic.org/go/researchgrants.

Best of ATS Video Lecture Series (BAVLS)

Do you have an amazing teaching video that you want to share with the world?
Then consider submitting to the Best of ATS Video Lecture Series (BAVLS).

For more information, please visit

<http://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/video-lecture-series/>



ATS 2017 Exhibitors Doing Fundraisers for ATS Foundation

Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc. in Booth 525

Actelion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. will donate \$25 for each attendee who takes part in their “Join the Conversation” digital graffiti activity. They have pledged a maximum donation of \$25,000.

AstraZeneca in Booth 637

AstraZeneca will donate \$5 for each attendee who completes their activity. They have pledged a maximum donation of \$7,500.

Vitalograph, Inc. in Booth 1630

Vitalograph, Inc. will donate \$1 for each attendee who completes their respiratory quiz. They have pledged a maximum donation of \$100



ATS BEAR Cage

(Building Education to Advance Research)

Sunday, May 21, 2017

2pm – 4pm

Center for Career Development

Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Hall D, (Middle Building, Level 2)

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the 3rd Annual BEAR Cage (Building Education to Advance Research) competition encouraged early career investigators to submit an innovative clinical or translational research proposal for the opportunity to participate in the live event at ATS 2017. Join us to see the top three finalists competitively “pitch” their proposals to a panel of translational science experts representing academia, industry, and governmental sectors. Come support and cheer on the finalists as they compete for the \$5,000 grand prize! All are encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information, please contact DDDD@thoracic.org.

2017 BEAR Cage Finalists

Marcus Y. Chen, MD

National Heart, Lung, and
Blood Institute (NHLBI)

Chest CT at Chest X-ray Radiation Dose

Sanghyuk Shin, PhD

UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

Unmasking Resistance: Impact of Low-frequency Drug-Resistance on Molecular Diagnosis of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis

Prema R. Menon, MD, PhD

University of Vermont Medical Center

Communicating with Mechanically Ventilated Patients

Cough

When air passes out through our voice box with force, a sound is made that we all recognize as a "cough". The act of coughing usually begins with a deep breath in, followed by air leaving the mouth with force. A cough is your body's way of preventing material from entering your breathing tubes (airways) and clearing mucus or foreign material from your airways. Cough is the most common complaint for which patients seek medical care.



A cough is not a disease, but can be a common symptom of different upper and lower respiratory tract diseases. Even if you do not have a lung disease, you may cough.

What causes a cough?

A cough can happen when something irritates your nerve endings. Labeled cough receptors. These nerve endings are in many areas inside your body, from your head and neck area, to just above your navel (belly button). Inhaling particles, vapors, smokes, fumes, dust, or cold air may irritate these receptors and may make you cough.

Can a cough spread infection?

Cough can be a way of spreading infection to others. Infections like the flu and tuberculosis (TB) are examples of infections that can be spread by coughing infected droplets into the air. While a cold virus (the common cold) can be passed on to others by coughing, cold viruses are much more likely to be spread to others by hand-to-hand contact. Hand-to-hand contact is when you shake hands with someone who has the infection or touch something that has the cold virus on it and then your touch your nose or eyes.

To help decrease the spread of infection, you should:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. You don't want to spread germs to others.
- When a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- Dispose of used tissues into a waste basket.
- Avoid spitting as it can cause a risk that may infect others.
- Ask for and wear a facemask when visiting a healthcare facility if you are coughing or have cold symptoms.
- Wash your hands often and for at least 30 seconds using soap and water.
- Use an alcohol-based hand rub (sanitizer) when soap and water are not available.

Is there anything special that I should know about my cough?
If you have a cough, keep track of how long you have been

that provides vomiting is called pertussis (whooping cough). Such a cough-variant syndrome, according to the CDC, should alert one to the possibility of pertussis. For more information on whooping cough, see the ATS patient information series piece "Pertussis" at www.thoracic.org/patient.

Acute, Sub-acute and Chronic Cough

There are three time periods to use as you describe how long you have had your cough: acute (lasts less than 3 weeks), sub-acute (lasts 3 to 8 weeks) or chronic (lasts more than 8 weeks and does not let up).

- An acute cough is most often caused by the common cold. This cough usually starts to improve by the third to fifth day. Cough from the common cold usually is not a serious threat to health and usually does not last longer than 3 weeks. People with a cold typically also complain of nasal stuffiness, runny nose, throat clearing, and a sore or scratchy throat. They also may feel like they have mucus dripping down the back of their throat. Acute cough can also be due to inhaling irritants such as pollen or strong fumes. Cough may be the first symptom of inadequate control of asthma. Less commonly, an acute cough can be due to more serious conditions such as pneumonia or heart failure.
- A sub-acute cough most commonly happens after a respiratory infection (often from a virus). Other common reasons for a sub-acute cough are whooping cough (pertussis) and flare-ups of conditions such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, sinusitis or bronchiectasis. When a cough starts to get better but then worsens, you should see your healthcare provider.
- A chronic cough can happen to you for many reasons. Often, it is a combination of reasons that explain why you are coughing. Chronic cough can happen from upper airway conditions such as inflammation (swelling) of the membranes inside the nose (rhinitis) and sinuses (sinusitis) as a result of allergies or infections or from poorly controlled asthma. Cigarette smoking can cause chronic bronchitis and result

Patient Education Materials Available at the 2017 International Conference

The ATS now maintains over 100 patient education handouts as part of its Patient Information Series. The Series includes a wide variety of pulmonary/critical care/sleep and public health topics including: Bronchoscopy, Pneumonia, Mechanical Ventilation, Oxygen Therapy, Asthma, COPD, PFTs, Sleep Testing, Lung Cancer, VCD, TB, Emergency/Disaster, and Palliative Care. All pieces are available in English and many available in other languages, such as Spanish and Portuguese.

In addition to the Patient Information Series, a new Lung Cancer Screening Decision Aid is now available for free on the ATS Website, with bulk copies available for purchase.

All are encouraged to use these free-access materials, which are published in the ARJCCM, posted on the ATS Website at www.thoracic.org/patients and can be provided upon request in alternative formats for EMR systems. Stop by the ATS Center in Washington, D.C. to view copies of these materials. Contact Judy Corn, ATS Staff, at jcorn@thoracic.org for additional information or to suggest new topics.

Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2017 ATS International Conference in Washington, D.C.

If you're developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Statements, Clinical Practice Guidelines, Workshop Reports, or Technical Standards), please consider attending one or more of these opportunities while you are in Washington, D.C. at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop/Meeting: Friday, May 19th from 6-9 PM, Renaissance Washington Downtown, Meeting Room 8-9. This session is **required** for all Guideline Panel Chairs and Chairs of new non-guideline projects. The session is **recommended** for Chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Please RSVP to John Harmon at jharmon@thoracic.org if you have not already done so. Note: CPG Chairs are required to provide a brief verbal update at this session.
 - ⇒ 6-7 PM – Presentations by DDIC members about the Official Document types, methodological requirements for each, and other practical issues (e.g., conflict of interest management, review, and approval); a light dinner will be served.
 - ⇒ 7-9 PM – Current Guideline Chairs (or their designees) will give progress reports and then troubleshoot informally with DDIC members and ATS staff. New Guideline Chairs will have the opportunity to listen to these reports and learn about the "trials and tribulations" of guideline development from experienced peers.
- Ad Hoc meetings: Whether you are developing or want to develop an official ATS document, you can schedule an appointment with Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist). To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or Jan Brozek at brozekj@mcmaster.ca.
- Documents Meeting Space: Meeting space will be available to document developers from Sunday-Wednesday; contact Kimberly Lawrence at klawrence@thoracic.org for additional details.
- Guideline Methodology Training Program Information Session: Monday, May 22nd from 7-8:30 PM, Renaissance Washington Downtown, Meeting Rooms 12-13-14. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this new training program is welcome to attend. A brief description of the program will be provided, followed by time for questions and answers. A light dinner will be served. RSVP to kwilson@thoracic.org is required. Space is limited.
- Meet the Professors: A Meet the Professors Session entitled "Official ATS Documents: How to Get Involved" is being hosted by Dr. Raed Dweik (Chair of the Documents Development and Implementation Committee) and Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) on Tuesday, May 23rd from 12:15 until 1:15 pm. Registration is available through the Conference Registration Website.