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Pulmonary Rehabilitation

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear Assembly colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present our Spring 2016 PR Assembly newsletter to you. I would like to thank the many members who have contributed to it. Our goal is to update you all regarding the recent activities of the Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation and to inform you about

some additional activities going on within the ATS as a whole. Our Executive Committee members would be pleased to receive further input from you as short comments on the newsletter or points of information that may be of interest to our members. Please send any contributions to us via our Assembly mailbox at PR@thoracic.org.

Currently, the ATS Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation has a total of 648 members. Of these, 211 are primary members, and 438 list the PR Assembly as their secondary Assembly membership. Our members represent multiple countries and multiple healthcare disciplines. Currently, 75 of our primary members are from the United States, and 136 are international Members.

This newsletter comes just before the Annual ATS International conference in May, and the program this year is as varied and engaging as ever. We hope to see many of you in San Francisco! **Please feel welcome to attend our annual PR Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 16th from 5-7PM. It will be held in the San Francisco Marriot Marquis – Yerba Buena Ballroom Salon 13-15 – Lower B2 Level.** This meeting is an opportunity for you to meet the Assembly Executive Committee and to network with international colleagues representing many healthcare disciplines. Members of the Executive Committee will be present at 4:30 pm to meet, greet and speak with anyone who has ideas for and who would like to become more involved with Assembly activities. We especially welcome new members or potential members to this meeting!



Carolyn L. Rochester, MD

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MESSAGE FROM ASSEMBLY CHAIR (cont')

This year we are holding the important election for the Assembly Chair-elect, who will become our next Assembly Chair in May 2017. We have two wonderful candidates for this position, Dr. Richard Casaburi from UCLA Medical Center, and Dr. Paula Meek, from University of Colorado (Denver) College of Nursing. We are also holding elections for Program Chair-Elect and for membership of the Nominating Committee. Please have a look at the biosketches of the candidates at <http://www.thoracic.org/vote/assembly-vote-main.php> and please do cast your vote for the next leaders of our Assembly. Votes must be submitted by April 29th 2016.

This is an exciting time for the field of pulmonary rehabilitation, given ongoing developments regarding its science, delivery and importance in the overall integrated care of patients with chronic respiratory diseases. There are several exciting initiatives ongoing within our Assembly and within ATS as a whole. Please read on to learn about these recent activities!

PULMONARY REHABILITATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Sally J. Singh, Ph.D, Chair, and Marilyn Moy, M.D, PhD, Program Chair-Elect

This year, the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly received 99 abstract submissions plus 10 late-breaking submissions. This is similar to the number of abstracts submitted over the past 3 years. The quality of submissions continues to be very high. Notably, this year was the first year wherein new abstract categories and subcategories were piloted for the International Conference as a whole. This new category system allows for and encourages a greater degree of discussion and collaboration across assemblies for programming of abstracts wherein the subject is of interest to more than one assembly. Additional details of this new abstract category system will be highlighted at the PR Assembly membership meeting. Please feel free to contact the Program Committee Chair if you have any questions or comments regarding the process for abstract submissions.

The Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation Sessions for the ATS 2016 International Conference are shown below: Additional conference sessions of potential interest to you can be found on the ATS website: www.thoracic.org--click on [ATS Conferences](#) tab.

ATS 2016 - San Francisco Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<i>Scientific Symposium</i>			
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B7	ONE STEP AT A TIME: HAS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DELIVERED AS AN OUT-COME IN CLINICAL TRIALS?	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C6	A REPORT CARD ON EDUCATION DURING PULMONARY REHABILITATION: HOW ARE WE DOING	9:00 AM	11:00 AM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Jointly-Developed Symposium			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A91	HOT TOPICS IN DISPARITIES IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE AND SLEEP MEDICINE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Workshop Sessions			
Monday, May 16, 2016			
WS3	PULMONARY REHABILITATION FOR INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE: OPTIMIZING THE MODEL	11:45 AM	1:15 PM
Sunrise Seminars			
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
SS215	INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING IN COPD	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
MP613	DELIVERING EFFECTIVE PULMONARY REHABILITATION WITH MINIMAL RESOURCES	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposium			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A96	CLINICAL TRIALS AND NOVEL INTERVENTIONS IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B109	HIGHLIGHTS AND ADVANCES IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A69	PULMONARY REHABILITATION IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION, INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE, AND OTHER CONDITIONS: WHAT'S NEW?	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B56	THE ART AND SCIENCE OF REHABILITATION: NOVEL TREATMENTS AND OUTCOMES IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C66	WALK THIS WAY': UPDATE ON EXERCISE TESTS AND PULMONARY REHABILITATION	9:00 AM	4:15 PM

Program Planning for Next Year

We encourage all members of the PR Assembly to get involved in the planning for next year's ATS meeting! The first discussions regarding possible session topics will take place at the **PR Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 16th from 5-7PM. It will be held in the San Francisco Marriot Marquis – Yerba Buena Ballroom Salon 13-15 – Lower B2 Level.** Please do plan to attend if you are able! These initial ideas will be discussed further at the Program Committee Meeting at the ATS International Conference. Ideas for symposia and other sessions can also be discussed with Sally Singh, Program Committee Chair, Marilyn Moy, Program Chair-elect, or with other members of the Program Committee of the PR Assembly Leadership. Session proposals are developed and then uploaded onto the ATS website for submission in early June.

PROGRAM PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR (Cont'd)

Each year, the Assembly Program Committee reviews grades and ranks all sessions submitted for consideration, including major symposia, mini-symposia, workshops, meet the professor sessions, sunrise seminars, poster presentation sessions and ideas for postgraduate courses. Robust submission of abstracts and proposals for symposia and other sessions is essential to achieving presentation of state-of-the-art science in pulmonary rehabilitation at the International Conference.

Currently, the PR Assembly is allocated two major symposia, one mini-symposium, two poster discussion sessions and two thematic poster sessions for presentation at the annual International Conference. Additional symposia sessions can occasionally be obtained and programmed if accepted to the program as a joint proposal between the PR Assembly and one or more other ATS Assemblies. The actual dates and times for each assembly's sessions are determined at the International conference Committee Meetings each Fall. Day and time slots for the major symposia for all of the ATS Assemblies are determined by drawing "out of a hat" in an effort to maintain fairness across Assemblies.

We encourage everyone to get involved, by submitting abstracts and ideas for all the various types of sessions. We particularly encourage involvement by new Assembly members, those in training, and those from countries where pulmonary rehabilitation is a new and emerging field. We look forward to hearing from you!

UPDATE FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE

Melissa Bednarek, PT, DPT, PhD, Chair

The primary responsibility of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Planning Committee is to review grant proposals for Assembly-based projects based on the goals and priorities of the Assembly. Additional duties are to suggest updates to existing documents and/or new projects that would be of benefit to the Assembly.

This past year one project was successfully renewed and two new projects were funded. Dr. Carolyn Rochester and Dr. Ioannis Vogiatzis received a renewal on their project "ATS/ERS Official Policy Statement: Enhancing Implementation, Use and Delivery of Pulmonary Rehabilitation". The document resulting from their Task Force on Policy in PR was published in the December 1, 2015 issue of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*. Dr. Felicity Blackstock received funding for her project "COPD Education in Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs" and Dr. Valerie Press received funding for her project "Reducing COPD Hospital Readmission – Concepts and Blueprint for Success." We look forward to the results of these projects and welcome any new ideas!

The Planning Committee meets face-to-face each year at the ATS Meeting in May and reviews submitted proposals over the summer. Please bring ideas for new projects! The 2016 ATS Pulmonary Rehabilitation Planning Committee will have a meeting during the ATS Conference to discuss ideas presented at the PR Assembly Membership Meeting. The proposal submission date comes soon after the ATS conference. Please contact Melissa Bednarek with your ideas and suggestions for future projects for the Assembly.

WEB COMMITTEE UPDATE

Frits Franssen, MD, PhD

Dr. Frits Franssen played a key essential role in the development and implementation of our PR Assembly web activities again this year. His investment in and time devoted to these activities has turned the Web Committee into one of our most exciting event platforms. Importantly, these web-based activities enable and foster participation in multidisciplinary collaborative interactions across programs and continents, and can reach parts of the world where PR is thus far less available. We cannot thank Dr. Franssen enough for his leadership of this Committee! We look forward to continued growth of the PR Assembly Web Committee under the future leadership of Dr. Rachel Evans (Leicester, UK), the incoming Chair of the Web Committee.

JOURNAL CLUB UPDATE

Since ATS 2015, the Web Committee organized three online Journal Clubs. On October 20th, 2015, Dr. Marla Beauchamp (Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, US) presented the paper by Lahousse and colleagues entitled: 'Gait patterns in COPD: the Rotterdam Study' published in European Respiratory Journal in 2015. Discussion was stimulated by Dr. Kenneth Meyer, Associate Professor of Movement Sciences at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. Dr. Frits Franssen (CIRO, the Netherlands) was the moderator.

On December 15th, Dr. Rainer Gloeckl (Schoen-Kliniken Germany) presented the paper entitled "Pulmonary Rehabilitation for Interstitial Lung Disease'. This study was recently published by Leona Dowman (Department of Physiotherapy, LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia) and colleagues, in the Cochrane Library 2014. Dr. Linda Nici from Brown University (USA) was the discussion panelist and Dr. Anne Holland from LaTrobe University (Australia) joined the discussion as the senior author. The Journal club was moderated by Dr. Roger Goldstein (University of Toronto).

On February 16th, 2016, Prof. Francois Maltais (Université Laval, Québec, Canada) presented the study entitled 'Sarcopenia in COPD: prevalence, clinical correlates and response to pulmonary rehabilitation', which was published by Jones and colleagues in Thorax in 2015. Dr. Matthew Maddocks, one of the authors, joined the online discussion. Prof. Annemie Schols (Maastricht University, the Netherlands) served as discussion panelist, while Dr. Sheila Zanoria (University of Connecticut Health Center, CT, USA) was the moderator.

One more Journal Club has been announced.

On April 12th, 2016, the paper by Altenburg and colleagues (University of Groningen, The Netherlands) entitled 'Short- and long-term effects of a physical activity counselling programme in COPD: a randomized controlled trial.' Will be presented and discussed. More details will follow shortly.

TWITTER

At the time of the ATS Conference in Denver 2015, the official Twitter account of the PR Assembly (@PR_Assembly) had about 150 followers. Since then, this number has doubled. Several members of the web committee actively feed on this Twitter page. Literature updates, news, Journal Club announcements and other issues related to the Assembly are regularly communicated through this account. We hope to see this platform continue to develop as a means of communication for our multidisciplinary Assembly Members across multiple continents.

PODCAST

During the last ATS conference in 2015, our Assembly was the first to publish a Podcast. This covered the topic 'Pulmonary rehabilitation for non-obstructive lung diseases'. Dr. Klaus Kenn (Schoenau am Koenigssee, Germany) was interviewed on the scientific evidence, special considerations and other important aspects of PR in these patients. The Podcast was well received.

In September 2015 the Podcast 'Self-management in COPD and chronic lung disease' was released. Dr. Samantha Harrison (Toronto, Canada) interviewed Dr. Roberto Benzo (Rochester, US), who is an expert in the field of mindfulness in chronic lung disease.

Two additional Podcasts will be recorded and launched before ATS in May 2016.

INSTAGRAM

In addition to its Twitter account, the Web Committee started an Instagram page for the PR Assembly. Content and activity should be increased in near future. Please follow us: https://www.instagram.com/pr_assembly/

VIDEO CONTENT

A 10 minute documentary on the organization of Pulmonary Rehabilitation in the Netherlands was released on the PR Assembly website. Suggestions for video content of the website are very welcome.

Members of the Web Committee

Since the last ATS congress, several new members joined the Web Committee: Carlos Camillo (Leuven, Belgium), Christian Osadnik (Monash University, Australia) and Sheila Zanolis (Bloomfield, CT, USA). An overview of all current members can be found online: <http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/pr/officers-committees/>. After serving as the Web Director from 2012 to the present, Dr. Frits Franssen will be succeeded as Web Director by Dr. Rachael Evans (Leicester, UK) starting at the 2016 ATS conference.

Web committee meeting

During ATS in San Francisco this May, the web committee will meet again and plans for the next year will be discussed.

Updates from the PR Assembly Nominating Committee

Roger S. Goldstein, MD, Chair

This committee is responsible for nominating individuals to the various positions within the ATS PR Assembly leadership. This year we (Suzanne Lareau, Thierry Troosters and I) identified several individuals well qualified to participate in these roles. In addition a number of individuals were identified by the membership. A number of conversations with potential nominees resulted in our focusing on a few candidates. The nominees were as follows:

Chair Elect of Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly: Richard Casaburi and Paula Meek

Chair Elect Program Committee: William Man and Brian Carlin

Membership of Nominating Committee: Francois Maltais, Rebecca Couch, Pat Camp

The democratic voting process inevitably means that some nominees will not proceed this year. However, it is clear that each of the above candidates would make outstanding contributions to our Assembly, and are encouraged to participate actively irrespective of the final vote. On-line voting for the leaders for the above-noted positions is ongoing at <http://www.thoracic.org/vote/assembly-vote-main.php>. The deadline for submitting your votes is April 29th. To add a word, many of the potential candidates asked how onerous a job it is to join the Assembly leadership. We were able to assure them that although the obligations and time commitments vary with the positions, for the most part the leadership positions have straightforward responsibilities and are lots of fun. The nominating committee strongly encourages membership participation in the various committees.

ATS/ERS Taskforce on Policy in Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Carolyn L. Rochester, MD & Ioannis Vogiatzis, Ph.D

The joint ATS/ERS Task Force on Policy In Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Co-chaired by Carolyn L. Rochester, M.D. and Ioannis Vogiatzis, Ph.D. worked between May 2013 and the Fall of 2015 to develop a Policy Statement to address the existing gap between the well-established evidence documenting benefits of PR for patients with chronic respiratory diseases and the actual delivery of PR services world-wide. The Task Force was composed of a multidisciplinary team of experts from the ATS and ERS that included pulmonary specialty and primary care providers; input was obtained via informal surveys from patients, patient advocacy groups (including the ATS Public Advisory Roundtable and the European Lung Foundation) insurance payers and additional PR providers. The document developed by this Task Force, **“An Official American Thoracic Society/European Respiratory Society Policy Statement: Enhancing Implementation, Use and Delivery of Pulmonary Rehabilitation”** was published in December 2015: **Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2015;192(11)1373-86**. This document articulates policy recommendations and provides actionable items for advancing healthcare professionals’, payers’ patients’ and general public awareness and knowledge of PR, increasing patient access to PR, ensuring quality of PR programs, and recommends areas of future research to inform future healthcare funding and reimbursement policy regarding PR. Efforts are underway in ATS and ERS to enhance dissemination of this document and its messages to patients, the general public, healthcare professionals, healthcare policy makers, and payers. Please contact the Task Force Co-chairs or Members of the PR Executive Committee if you have any ideas or comments related to this document or promotion of the recommendations within it.

EFFORTS TO FOSTER INTERACTIONS BETWEEN PR ASSEMBLY AND OTHER COMMITTEES

There are many ATS Committee-based initiatives with a high degree of overlapping relevance and interest to the PR Assembly. For example, Committees with ongoing activities of particular importance to our Assembly include (but are not limited to) the Education Committee, the Training Committee, the Membership Committee, the International Health Committee, the Health Policy Committee and others.

The PR Assembly leadership hopes to partner more with the leaders of those Committees to foster joint collaborative initiatives in the years ahead. Examples include ideas and goals to update the key literature references for pulmonary rehabilitation, develop collaborations to develop standardized educational curricula for pulmonary rehabilitation, and collaborate regarding global outreach to support and foster development and implementation of pulmonary rehabilitation in regions/countries where it is lacking, and foster continued growth of ATS members with interests in PR. We are interested in hearing any ideas you have in regards to additional ways we could work collaboratively with any of the other ATS Committees. Please go to the ATS Website at www.thoracic.org to learn more about the ATS Committees.

The Nursing Assembly has also implemented an integrative therapies interest group. This group may also be of interest to PR Assembly Members. Please contact DorAnne Donesky, PhD (Current Chair of Nursing Assembly) or Eileen G. Collins, PhD (Chair Elect of the Nursing Assembly), if you have interest in engaging with this interest group.

EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY

Ioannis Vogiatzis, PhD

Dr. Ioannis Vogiatzis is the current chair of the ERS Scientific Rehabilitation and Chronic Care Group 01.02. Dr. Vogiatzis has been a strong supporter and active member of our ATS PR Assembly and served as ERS Co-chair of the ATS/ERS Task Force on Policy in Pulmonary Rehabilitation. The ERS Group 01.02 is the ERS group most similar to our PR assembly, and we share interests and experiences on an ongoing basis.

Our collaboration with the ERS Rehabilitation and Chronic Care Group broadens our international platform and embraces interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary discussions on rehabilitation and chronic care. Many of our members also attend the annual ERS International Congress, which will be held this year from September 3rd-7th, 2016 in London, England. In addition to all the aspects of rehabilitation, the chronic care aspect of the ERS group includes palliative care, advance life directives, end-of-life communication, home care, e-health, self management, care of patients with tracheostomies and those requiring home-mechanical ventilation, and more. The ERS Rehabilitation and Chronic Care Group kindly shares their quarterly literature updates with us, which many of us read with interest.

Recent past joint ATS/ERS projects have included the ATS/ERS Task Force on Policy in Pulmonary Rehabilitation (see section above), the Statement on Skeletal Muscle Dysfunction in COPD (2014), the Official Systematic Review of "Measurement Properties of Field Walking Tests (2014) and the Technical Standard: Field Walking Tests in Chronic Respiratory Disease (2014). Discussions between the ATS PR Assembly and the ERS Rehabilitation and Chronic Care Group regarding future collaborative projects are underway. Future projects under consideration include development of quality standards for pulmonary rehabilitation to enable international benchmarking in PR, and development of standardized educational curricula in pulmonary rehabilitation for physicians and other healthcare disciplines.

EARLY CAREER RESEARCH AWARD

This is an award which was initiated in 2015, and will be given annually to an individual who has made outstanding scientific contributions relevant to the understanding of pulmonary rehabilitation, including but not limited to: program structure, program content, outcomes or outcome measures, adjuncts to exercise training, education, self-management, health-enhancing behavior change, social or psychological support, knowledge translation and program accreditation. Please submit your suggestions or questions regarding this award to the PR Assembly Chair or other members of the PR Assembly Executive Committee. To submit nominations for this award visit the ATS website.

EARLY CAREER WORKING GROUP

Increasing engagement of healthcare professionals in the early stages of their careers is an important goal of the ATS. To this end, most of the existing Assemblies within ATS have established Early Career Working Groups to address the needs and concerns of members early in their careers, and 12 Assembly Mentoring programs launched this month. In the coming months, we plan to also develop and implement an Early Career Working Group within the PR Assembly. The purposes and activities of this group include (but are not limited to): providing orientation to the PR Assembly for new Assembly members or for those considering membership, communicating with authors of PR abstracts, new attendees and early career members regarding new initiatives and activities ongoing in the PR Assembly and ways to become involved, meeting and greeting early career and new members at the PR Assembly Membership meeting, and coordinating a mentorship (mentor-mentee partnership) program relevant to career development within the PR Assembly. Mentors are needed so if you are willing to participate as a PR Assembly mentor for any early career professionals within any healthcare discipline please do sign up! Please send us your feedback and ideas regarding this planned Working Group to our Assembly Mailbox at PR@thoracic.org.

REFLECTIONS AND MESSAGE FROM IMMEDIATE PAST PR ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Roger S. Goldstein, M.D., Chair, PR Assembly 2013-2015

Stepping down is always associated with mixed feelings, especially if you have enjoyed the opportunity to lead an Assembly as friendly and committed as ours. However, any discomfort is allayed by my knowing that the Assembly is in excellent hands. The last Assembly Membership Meeting (18th May 2015) was enriching in many ways. The attendance was excellent and the room filled with enthusiastic multidisciplinary and multinational members.

At the 2015 Assembly membership meeting, we presented ATS scholarship abstract awards to: Alessandra Adami, Marla Beauchamp, Carlos Augusto Camillo, Valerie Coats, Katrina J. Curtis, Heleen Demeyer, Satvir S Dhillon, Samantha Harrison, Inga Heinzelman, Matthias Loecke, Lisa M Mason, Ajsza Matela and Mihaela S. Stefan. During the meeting itself we had the pleasure of hearing presentations and reading posters authored by this bright group of individuals from various healthcare specialties.

In addition, the members of the ATS Public Advisory Round Table provided awards to Ronald Evans (Lung Transplant Foundation) and Rainer Gloeckl (Emphysema Foundation for our Rights to Survive). The International Trainee Development Scholarship Award was presented to Rafael Mesquita at a separate ceremony.

We also presented the first PR Assembly Early Career Achievement Award, which went to Dr. Xavier Soler from UC San Diego. Please see the Section on New PR Assembly Initiatives in this Newsletter for a description of the nominations process for this award.

It was with great pleasure that I had the opportunity to present recognition awards to three very well deserving longstanding members of the pulmonary rehabilitation community:

--Nomination from the Americas: Dr Richard Casaburi. Richard is one of the founding members of our assembly. Known widely for his contributions to exercise physiology and rehabilitation, slides from his classic body of work on the impact of exercise training in COPD are frequently shown at ATS presentations. His love of medicine is second only to his love of his family.

--Nomination from Europe: Dr. Nicolino Ambrosino. Nico is known to many of us for his contributions in rehabilitation and long term ventilation in the Italian respiratory community and beyond. He has been a constant figure at North American and European meetings and has held numerous posts in the ERS. He has been a driving force and a senior member of the ERJ editorial board. Nico also had a short but brilliant career as an olive grower.

--Nomination of Senior Leader in PR, Emeritus or In Memoriam: Dr. Jose Jardim: Jose has been the founding father of Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Brazil. There are now more than 100 such programs with many of the therapists having trained with Jose. He has developed a certificate program in rehabilitation from which many of the physical therapists have graduated. He has become a constant figure associated with Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Brazil. He regularly attends the ATS and always has time for students and colleagues. Just retired, the award is a fitting reflection of his accomplishments.

ATS FOUNDATION

The ATS Foundation is a key organization within ATS that raises funds for ATS members' research and several additional key research-related activities within ATS. Dr. James Donohue, Division Director Emeritus of the Department of Pulmonary, Critical Care at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a leading expert on COPD has served as Chair of the ATS Foundation since 2010. Lydia Neumann is director of the Foundation and worked with Dr. Donohue and the Board of Trustees on the Tenth Anniversary Campaign, an initiative to raise \$3 million over three years for research. Both Dr. Donohue and Lydia Neumann have worked tirelessly on behalf of the Foundation and ATS members and we thank them heartily for their efforts and leadership. Dr. Donohue will be stepping down in May 2016 after several years of dedicated and enthusiastic service. Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD will be the incoming Chair of the ATS Foundation as of May 15th.

The Foundation of the American Thoracic Society was established 10 years ago and the amount of funding for research has increased each year. The Foundation has been a leader amongst all professional medical associations in the number and size of grants that have been awarded to early stage investigators in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. Many of the funds are raised from the members themselves of the ATS. Overall, over 1000 or 12% are contributing to our young investigators. Thanks to ATS members' support in 2015, the ATS Foundation Research Program has awarded a total of \$15 million in grants to 189 outstanding young investigators in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. The Foundation is increasing the number of unrestricted grants for each of the ATS 3 pillars: Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine.

Overall, in 2015, the ATS Foundation Research Program succeeded in:

- Awarding 6 unrestricted grants to outstanding early-stage investigators (with an increased number going to translational and clinical applicants);
- Providing recognition awards to 3 promising young investigators who submitted excellent grant applications that just missed the NIH pay line;
- Awarding partner grants to 7 early-stage investigators working on treatments and cures for several respiratory diseases;
- Awarding grants through the Grants-for-Hire program for organizations wishing to maintain sovereignty over their research program but wish to access the ATS peer review process;
- Providing 4 grants to exceptional ATS MECOR Program alumni—improving global health through research and education in middle and low income countries.

ASSEMBLY CHALLENGE

The second annual Assembly Challenge for the “Funds for the Future Campaign” in support of the ATS Foundation was held in the Fall of 2015. The Challenge kicked off on #GivingTuesday on December 1st, 2015, a special day dedicated to the joy of giving worldwide, and ran throughout the month of December.

A total of \$487,036 was raised this past year across all Assemblies. The PR Assembly raised \$6,675; our Assembly brought in one first-time donor in December, and our member participation rate was 9.3%.

Awards were given to the Assemblies who raised the greatest amount of money (RCMB), had the greatest number of first time donors (RCMB) and who had the highest Assembly member participation rate (Nursing).

We look forward to continued and enhanced participation of our PR Assembly Members in the ATS Assembly Challenge in 2016!

QUESTIONS FOR THE ATS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & ATS JOURNAL EDITORS

ATS Executive Committee welcomes questions from ATS Members

The ATS Executive Committee would like to answer questions posed by you in the time allotted for their visit to each Assembly at the ATS International Conference. The current Executive Committee includes President Atul Malhotra, President-elect David Gozal, Vice President Marc Moss, Secretary-Treasurer Polly Parsons, and immediate past President Thomas Ferkol. Now is your chance to have the EC representative address your specific questions or concerns about the Society.

Pulmonary Rehabilitation

To: PR Primary Members

Subject: What would you like to ask the ATS Executive Committee or the ATS Journal Editors? Send us your questions!

ATS Journal Editors welcome questions from ATS members

The ATS Journal Editors are also willing to entertain specific questions rather than making a formal presentation. Current ATS Journal Editors include Jadwiga A. Wedzicha (AJRCCM), Kenneth B. Adler (AJRCMB) and John Hansen-Flaschen (Annals of ATS). If you have ever wondered about the inner workings of the journals or how you can get more involved, this would be the time and place to ask. The editors will do their best to answer these questions during the Assembly Membership Meetings at the International Conference.

Please email all questions to PR@thoracic.org.

ATS CENTER AT THE ATS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

A room designated as the ATS Center will be available in the Exhibit Hall at the 2016 ATS International Conference in San Francisco. This is intended as a place where members can go to relax, meet, greet and interact with ATS members from other assemblies, and can serve as a place where mentor-mentee partners can meet. Feel free to stop by the ATS Center during the meeting! Please go to the ATS Website www.thoracic.org to learn more about the ATS Center.

Our assembly continue to thrive and grow, as evidenced by our many activities and growing multidisciplinary and international membership. We strive to foster continued growth in the science of PR and to promote access and delivery of PR to patients who can benefit from it.

ASSEMBLY CHAIR - CLOSING REMARKS

Please encourage colleagues and friends to join. You may choose to make the PR Assembly your Primary Assembly, or to join our Assembly as a Secondary Assembly Either can be accomplished by sending your request to pr@thoracic.org. See <https://www.thoracic.org/members/membership/join-the-ats/categories-and-fees.php> for an outline of fees and categories. The strength and clinical messages of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly are best reflected in the abstracts and presentations at the Spring ATS International Conference in San Francisco (May 13-18, 2016). We welcome your visit to our Assembly Website at www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/pr. I hope to see you in San Francisco!

With kindest regards to all,

Carolyn L. Rochester, M.D.
Chair, Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation Membership Meeting

*Monday, May 16th
5:00pm-7:00pm
San Francisco Marriott Marquis*

*Yerba Buena Ballroom Salon 13-15
Lower B2 Level*



Meet Your Mentor HERE!

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2016 ATS International Conference in San Francisco, the Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentees to meet.

The Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot will be located in the San Francisco Marriott Marquis Hotel in the Willow room on the B2 Level of the Hotel. The room will be available:

Friday May 13th – Tuesday May 17th, 2015 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday May 18th from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Light snacks and beverages will be offered throughout the day. Also in the room there will be laptops and printers available for use. You can also pick up your Assembly Mentoring Program ribbon and pin!

We hope you can join us at the Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot!

Interested in joining a mentoring program? Visit the Assemblies homepage and click on [ATS Mentoring Program](#) to learn more or contact Breana Portelli at bportelli@thoracic.org

ANNOUNCING ATS FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM AWARDEES

The ATS Foundation is pleased to announce the grant and award recipients for the 2015-2016 grant cycle. The support of our members, donors, and partners helps make these awards possible—thank you! These grants and awards support research encompassing pulmonary, critical care, and sleep illnesses. In addition, they provide crucial support for early stage investigators from around the world. To see the awardees please click here.

(<http://foundation.thoracic.org/what-we-do/2015-research-awardees.php>)

Deadline for Letters of Intent to be submitted: **June 20th, 2016**

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2017!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2017. 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 Melissa Bednarek, PT, DPT, PhD at mbednarek@chatham.edu.

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

Patient Education Materials Available at the 2016 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 topics including: Bronchoscopy, Pneumonia, Mechanical Ventilation, Oxygen Therapy, Asthma, COPD, PFTs, Sleep Testing, Lung Cancer, COPD, VCD, and Palliative Care.

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 San Francisco to view copies of these materials. Contact Judy Corn, ATS Staff, at jcorn@thoracic.org for additional information.

Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2016 ATS International Conference in San Francisco

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 free opportunities while you are in San Francisco at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop/Meeting: Friday, May 13th from 6-9 PM, San Francisco Marriott Marquis.
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.
- 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: If your project committee is having a meeting in San Francisco, you have the opportunity to schedule an appointment for Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist) to stop by your committee meeting. To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or Jan Brozek at brozekj@mcmaster.ca.
- Office Hours and Documents Meeting Space: Stop by our 4th annual “Office Hours” to meet and talk with Drs. Kevin Wilson and Jan Brozek about document-related matters. Contact Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or cell 617/771-6589 to secure an appointment. The Documents meeting space will also be available to document developers when office hours are not in session from Sunday-Wednesday; contact Kimberly Lawrence at klawrence@thoracic.org for additional details.

First Annual ATS Walking Challenge

*Think you walk a lot at an ATS conference?
Let's see how you compare to other attendees.*

Step up to the First Annual ATS Walking Challenge.

Every step helps raise money for the ATS Foundation. Walk around the Exhibit Hall, meet new people, move from session to session and engage in friendly competition against other attendees with the ATS Walking Challenge. The top 3 overall steppers win a prize. Watch it all unfold in real-time on leaderboards in the Teva Respiratory booth #419 or at the ATS Walking Challenge booth.

The first 2,000 registrants receive a free ATS wireless activity tracker to use with the ATS Walking Challenge Mobile App (distributed on a 'first-come, first-served' basis). The ATS Walking Challenge Mobile App also supports attendees that prefer to use their own FitBit, Jawbone or iPhone/Android smart phone step counters.

The three individuals who log the most steps will win prizes!

- **Grand Prize** – Microsoft Surface Pro 3
- **2nd prize** – Fitbit Surge
- **3rd prize** – Zolt Laptop Charger Plus

Visit the Teva Respiratory booth #419 each day for a step booster.

Use the Walking Challenge mobile app to scan the QR code booster each day to earn your bonus steps. The more you visit, the more you receive:

First Day Visit - 500 steps
Second Day Visit - 750 steps
Third Day Visit - 1,000 steps

Walk for a good cause! For every participant who walks 30,000 steps, Teva Respiratory will make a donation of \$100 to the ATS Foundation, for a total maximum donation of \$50,000. Remember - 100% of all donations to the ATS Foundation fund new research awards. Learn more at Foundation.Thoracic.org.

Learn more and pre-register online at
cloud.hekahealth.com/ats2016 or stop by
the Walking Challenge Booth in the South
building lobby of the Moscone Center,
beginning 5/13/16.

Sponsored by:





ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

Thank you for participating in the [2015 ATS Assembly Challenge](#) in support of the [ATS Foundation Research Program](#)!

The Research Program has been outstandingly successful in launching careers dedicated to scientific discovery and better patient care. Member gifts also support core ATS mission-related programs including MECOR, Medical Education Research, the Ziskind Clinical Research Scholar Award, and Assembly Awards and Scholarships.



DorAnne M. Donesky, PhD, ANP-BC, chair for the Assembly on Nursing, receives Nursing's 2015 ATS Assembly Challenge award from Atul Malhotra, MD, ATS President (left) and James F. Donohue, MD, ATS Foundation Chair (right)



Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, receives RCMB's 2015 ATS Assembly Challenge awards from James F. Donohue, MD, ATS Foundation Chair

Gifts both large and small were received—and much appreciated—throughout the Assembly Challenge. **Thank you!**

Many assembly chairs sent personal messages to their members to encourage giving to the Foundation during the challenge. That outreach provided a big boost to Foundation year-end giving campaigns—and a boost to our upcoming grant-making capacity for young investigators.

Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, hopes the challenge will continue to “ignite a healthy competition among the assemblies, and that next year we will see a dramatic rise in donations and new donors from all assemblies. This will have a great impact on the availability of research funds, and on pulmonary research and medicine.”

The ATS Foundation would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their outreach efforts and generosity during the 2015 ATS Assembly Challenge.

- **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology** raised the most dollars with \$95,741
- **Nursing** had the highest member participation with 17.46%
- **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology** had the highest number of first-time givers in December with 37 new donors

Congratulations to the Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology and Nursing assemblies! They will receive special recognition in ATS communications, at ATS 2016, and within their own assemblies.

Thank you for everything that you do for the ATS Foundation, young investigators and clinicians, patients, and respiratory health worldwide.

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

2nd Annual BEAR Cage



Attend the BEAR Cage

(Building Education to Advance Research)

Sunday, May 15, 2016 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Moscone Center, Room 105 (South Building, Lower Level)

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the 2nd Annual BEAR Cage (Building Education to Advance Research) competition was open to all ATS members who are early career investi-

gators. Applicants were asked to submit an innovative clinical or translational research proposal for consideration and the opportunity to participate in the live BEAR Cage at ATS 2016. You are invited to join us to see the selected top three finalists competitively “pitch” their highly innovative research proposals to a panel of translational science experts representing academia, industry, and governmental sectors in front of a live audience. The panel, with audience participation, will vet the proposals with each presenter and ultimately award a grand prize winner a \$5,000 prize as well as two runner-up proposals, each receiving \$2,500. The goal of this unique event is to promote productive discussion of these innovative research ideas in the setting of a fun, yet competitive, forum promoting opportunities for collaboration, mentorship, and improvement of the research proposal. To build on this concept, a DDDD committee-sponsored “project advisory team” will provide feedback and distance mentorship to the awardees over the ensuing year.

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!](#) Link: <http://www.thoracic.org/members/membership/>

*Trainee members receive 30% and Affiliate members 10%

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 [HERE](#).

[link is: <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.

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