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Respiratory Structure and Function

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

As a new season approaches, there are opportunities to evaluate and to assess progress and seek new challenges for the Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF). Over the past year, the ATS has made strides to become fiscally sound. The international symposium globally remains the premier scientific exchange for lung research and the platform for establishing state-of-the-art clinical practices in respiratory disease. As May approaches, excitement builds for the opportunity to meet with our colleagues to share stories and to reflect on new scientific goals and learnings. In this newsletter, the highlights of the RSF Assembly will be outlined by each of the committees. Although our assembly ranks in the top four for membership and abstract submission, exciting new developments and opportunities can propel us to new heights.



Reynold A. Panettieri, Jr., MD

For those who have not been involved in the assembly, our business meeting is an outstanding venue that gathers scientists, trainees and clinicians interested in translational biology and in clinical approaches to address disease pathogenesis and therapy. You can find the contact information on our website (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/rsf/index.php>). Alternatively, simply contact your assembly officers or me to seek more information. Our assembly is noteworthy for its collegiality and desire to mentor. Crucial to our assembly's success is a desire to engage individuals at every stage in their career development. The legacy of the RSF Assembly rests on those whom we train.

Concerning training, our Early Career Professionals Working Group has made outstanding progress to ensure that young RSF affiliates are mentored and engaged. The meet-and-greet sessions and the career development workshop at the 2015 International Conference in Denver are ideal venues to seek mentorship and to question approaches to career development. Importantly, the RSF social media initiatives have exceeded all expectations. Having a Twitter account and a virtual journal club are outstanding new initiatives by the Early Career Professionals Working Group. Additionally, the noon workshop on publication and grant strategies has ranked as one of the most popular of the workshops; we hope that RSF members continue to seek direction at this symposium.

(Continued on page 2)

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (Continued)

Our RSF Assembly reception and dinner have been a highlight of the ATS international meeting. Our global colleagues meet, greet and begin to understand the value of “team” science and clinical approaches to address lung health. The excitement of seeing young investigators and clinicians mingle with senior colleagues clearly fosters the notion of true mentorship. The primary goal of this meeting is to highlight accomplishments, to inform the membership regarding new initiatives and to socialize in an informal setting.

Several important new directions have been identified at the ATS Board of Directors meetings. The science core track at the international conference that fosters unopposed scientific symposia will continue. The science core fosters new approaches and methods to address important clinical and translational challenges using cutting edge interdisciplinary investigation. In addition, a markedly revised approach to abstract programming will be trialed this year. Conceptually, abstracts will cut across assemblies to foster the greatest impact of the work to all membership. The details of this approach are highlighted in the Program Committee’s report.

Apart from the outstanding science and camaraderie among the RSF membership, I wish to pose an important challenge to our assembly. A new ATS program now provides RSF members the opportunity to donate directly to the RSF Assembly and its mission. Under the ATS Foundation, donations can be made directly to the RSF Assembly to support unrestricted research grants, programs and/or the annual reception. The benefit of supporting RSF in this manner provides valuable resourcing for assembly activities, and all of the funds donated can be directly used for our activities and members. The ATS recently ran a funding challenge that pitted each assembly against the other. Of the 13 assemblies, RSF ranked in the middle raising approximately \$12,000. I wish to challenge the RSF membership to meet and exceed this target and to earmark support for the RSF Assembly that can then enhance our mission.

The RSF Assembly would never exist without the untiring devotion of the RSF committees. Accordingly, I acknowledge the efforts of our officers, Planning Committee Chair Raymond Penn, Program Committee Chair Steven An, Nominating Committee Chair Robert Brown, Early Career Professionals Working Group Chair Charlotte Billington and our Web Director Marrah Lachowicz-Scroggins. All of these individuals have volunteered time to advance our mission and are at your service should you wish to be more involved. Please contact us at (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/rsf/index.php>).

Our international meeting also offers a wonderful opportunity to recognize outstanding individual accomplishments. At our business meeting, we present the Ann Woolcock Memorial Award to recognize outstanding young investigators of exceptional promise and the Joseph R. Rodarte Award for Scientific Distinction to a senior investigator to recognize lifetime achievement. Additionally, the Stuart J. Hirst Abstract Excellence Award is given to a trainee whose abstract is ranked by the RSF Program Committee in areas of airway biology and physiology. Trainees and junior investigators are also recognized for excellence by receiving travel awards. I hope you join me in congratulating the winners of these prestigious awards, and please nominate candidates who meet the criteria for excellence.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Raymond B. Penn, PhD, Chair

The RSF Planning Committee has been deeply engaged in the review and generation of ATS projects for 2015-2016. I am happy to report that after a long drought, there will be four new assembly projects in which RSF is the primary assembly. These projects include “ATS/ERS Statement on Technical Standards for the Forced Oscillation Technique” headed by Gregory King, “Update of ATS/ERS Standardisation of the Single Breath uptake of CO in the Lung” headed by Brian Graham, “Evaluation and Management of Asthma in the Elderly” headed by Gwen Skloot, and “Advancing Airway Remodeling as a Therapeutic Target” headed by Ray Penn and Y.S. Prakash. Congratulations to all the RSF participants contributing to these projects. Your efforts will ensure that scientific issues important to our assembly remain at the forefront for years to come.

The significant task of choosing the awardees of the prestigious Joseph R. Rodarte and Ann Woolcock Awards is underway, and the awards will be presented at the 2015 International Conference.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Steven S. An, PhD, Chair, and Geoffrey N. Maksym, PhD, Chair-Elect

For the past year, the Program Committee has been hard at work, and even gone the extra miles, in order to bring you the most exciting RSF-sponsored scientific sessions in Denver, Colorado. This despite the “Basic Science Core Track” theme for Denver—*Host Pathogen Interactions/Host Defense*—which might not be our strongest suit. Indeed, after reviewing over 450 scientific abstracts submitted to RSF, we were not only impressed by innovative ideas and new discoveries that are emerging from our colleagues, but also had the chance to re-discover our scientific roots. So this year, we chose the ‘roads less traveled’ to the Mile-High City (Denver). As shown below, we focused on the science/research that defines our membership and makes us extraordinary within the American Thoracic Society. To many of us, this is our home—our society to train, educate, and grow. We hope this year’s program will provide just that—the platform for you to exchange new ideas and collaborate with your colleagues in fostering new research projects and activities. This is your time!

In closing, we would like to thank our members of the Program Committee for their time and effort on the development of a superb program for the 2015 ATS International Conference. Currently, the RSF Program Committee is comprised of 36 members equally distributed in academic ranks with one-third comprising women in science, and whose expertise spans across scientific disciplines focused on lung health and disease. There is room to improve, and we need your help. If you would like to contribute to the programing, and serve on the RSF Program Committee, please contact Geoff Maksym.

Finally, we thank you for allowing us to program your work and, especially, thank the members of our newly established Program Advisory Committee (Jeffrey Fredberg, Wayne Mitzner and Andrew Halayko) for keeping us on the road and maintaining/promoting the scientific integrity and excellence of the RSF Assembly at the international conferences.

We look forward to seeing you all in Denver.

ATS 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Session	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Friday, May 15, 2015			
PG11	MASTER PHYSIOLOGY CLASS: COMMON PULMONARY DISEASES FROM A PHYSIOLOGIC PERSPEC-	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Saturday, May 16, 2015			
PG26	MASTER PHYSIOLOGY CLASS: ADVANCED TOPICS IN PULMONARY FUNCTION AND EXERCISE TEST-	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A87	USING LUNG CELL MECHANICS TO PROBE GENENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B86	LISTENING TO THE SILENT ZONE OF THE LUNG IN ASTHMA	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D10	SYSTEMS BIOLOGY AND CLINICAL PRACTICE: THE TWAIN SHALL MEET?	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Jointly-Developed Symposium			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B5	HOW PATHOGENS EVADE IMMUNE DEFENSES AND HOW WE CAN FIGHT BACK	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
B11	AIR POLLUTION: A MAJOR GLOBAL THREAT TO LUNG HEALTH	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
B85	US VERSUS THEM: MUCINS AND BIOFILMS IN THE BATTLE FOR THE LUNGS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C85	SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS OF THE YEAR: HOST PATHOGEN INTERACTIONS AND HOST DE-	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
Workshop Sessions			
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
WS7	MAKING AN IMPACT WITH YOUR SCIENCE	11:45 AM	1:15 PM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Sunrise Seminars			
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
SS216	MAXIMIZING CARDIOPULMONARY EXERCISE TESTING FOR CLINICAL DECISION MAKING	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
SS317	HRCT PATTERNS OF NSIP VS. UIP WITH PATHOLOGIC CORRELATION	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
MP414	DESIGN-BASED STEREOLOGY OF THE LUNG: A PROBLEM-BASED APPROACH	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
MP613	WHY IS MY PATIENT DYSPNEIC? A REVIEW OF CARDIOPULMONARY EXERCISE TESTING	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposium			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B17	ASTHMA-PHENOTYPE NICHE VIEWED THROUGH THE LENS OF PHYSICS: FOCUSED ON AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
B98	MAKING SENSE OF AIRWAY REMODELING: LEARNING TO COMMUNICATE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C18	STATE OF PLAY IN RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION: SEEING IS BELIEVING	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
C97	AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE: TRANSLATING REACTION TO THERAPEUTIC DISCOVERY	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D98	CELL FATE DECISION IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY AND FIBROSIS: TO BE OR NOT TO BE?	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A28	FLOW-VOLUME UNDERWORLD: COMING TO THE MILE-HIGH CITY	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
A108	RESPIRATORY BIOLOGY: AT A CROSSROAD BETWEEN INFECTION, INJURY, AND REPAIR	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B29	RESPIRATORY MUSCLE AT WORK: IS IT 'ALL ABOUT THAT BASS'?	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C29	SENSATIONS IN THE LUNG: COUGHING AND CONSTRICTING	9:30 AM	11:30 AM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D28	CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE: OF MICE AND MEN	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
D29	FRESH PERSPECTIVES ON AIRWAY REMODELING: FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH TO COUNTRY ROADS	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A57	LUNG INJURY, REPAIR, AND FIBROSIS: THE PLOT THICKENS FOR THREE'S COMPANY	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
A58	ASSESSING PULMONARY FUNCTION: SPIROMETRY AND BEYOND	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
A59	CARDIOPULMONARY EXERCISE TESTING AND MAPPING FUNCTION FROM THE UPPER AIRWAY TO THE LUNG	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B58	LUNG IMAGING I: PHYSIOLOGIC AND CLINICAL CORRELATES	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
B59	ASTHMA-LIKE PHENOTYPE: EMERGENCE OF (EPI)GENETICS AND TARGETED TRANSGENESIS	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C66	LUNG IMAGING II: NEW PROBES AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
C67	FUNCTIONAL MAPPING OF SMOOTH MUSCLE CONTRACTOME AND RELAXOME	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
C68	LAM, SURGERY, STEROID, AND THE (RE) GROWING LUNG	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
C69	WAITING TO INHALE: AEROSOL, DELIVERY, AND OUTCOMES	9:30 AM	4:15 PM

WEB DIRECTOR UPDATE

Marrah E. Lachowicz-Scroggins, PhD, Web Director

It was announced at the Fall ATS Leadership Summit that there will be a new format launched for the www.thoracic.org website in the upcoming months. The ATS-wide Web Committee learned about the new website and interactive materials available for use by the sections including: webinars, podcasts, journal club and social media. In preparation for the new website launch, old links were refined on the RSF site.

This year, I also established an RSF Web Subcommittee, comprised mostly of members from the RSF Early Career Professionals Working Group. We have held quarterly meetings with two goals: 1) implementation of social media for the RSF Assembly and 2) launch an online RSF Journal Club. An email requesting RSF Assembly members to join the RSF Facebook/Twitter was sent in early February, and we hope to have our first online journal club in the next few months. The journal club will provide access to open-access journal articles in the following areas: general lung-related (Nature, Cell, Science articles, when available), RSF-related/of interest, science ethics, science in popular media and finally articles of interest to trainees.

Please join the RSF Facebook and/or RSF Twitter at:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/ATS-RSF-Assembly/508565009274117>

Twitter https://twitter.com/ATS_RSFF

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Charlotte K. Billington, PhD, Chair

It has been a busy and productive year for us! Our working group of graduate students, postdoctoral and clinical fellows, and junior professionals from Australia, Europe and North America have worked hard to launch new initiatives. Last summer, Ms. Anita Spanjer updated the RSF guide to abstract submission (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/rsf/resources/rsf-abstract-writing-guide.pdf>) which, in addition to giving practical tips on choosing abstract categories, etc., aims to help researchers present their science in the best way possible. Continuing with this theme, we are proud to announce that at ATS 2015 in Denver we are sponsoring a workshop (WS7) entitled “Making an Impact with your Science” where three experienced scientists will share their tricks of the trade for 1) Writing for Impact: Delivering Your Research Messages, 2) Writing for Success: Enhancing Your Chances of Manuscript Acceptance and 3) Presenting to Your Audience. We hope you will join working group hosts Dr. Sean Ojo, Dr. Suzanne Miller and Ms. Kanika Jetmalani on Wednesday May 20th as they discover from Professors Jeffrey Fredberg, Reynold Panettieri and Simon Johnson how to prepare abstracts, submit research papers and present to general audiences whether via oral or poster communication. Pre-registration is required and attendance is limited so please sign up ASAP! This follows last year’s successful “Career Development Workshop: Understanding the Grant Review Process” hosted by Dr. Gijs Ijpma and Dr. Lucas Meuchel where the grant review process was simulated by panels consisting of Professors Leigh Ann Callahan, Andrew Halayko, Gregory King, Alan Knox, Wayne Mitzner and Reynold Panettieri. This insight into the often unknown and misunderstood grant review process received enthusiastic feedback and proved very interactive. To encourage this interaction again, we have scheduled lots of Q&A time into workshop this year also.

We have also been busy producing our assembly brochure (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/rsf/resources/rsf-brochure.pdf>) and Dr. Jade Jaffar, Ms. Anita Spanjer and Ms. Kanika Jetmalani recently launched the next round of the popular RSF Mentoring Program. The program goals are to support the career development of trainees and junior professionals through individualized mentorship and to increase trainee and junior professional involvement within our assembly. There is time to sign up as a mentee or mentor so please visit this page for further information (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/rsf/mentoring-program.php>). Feedback has been very positive with 90% of participants who responded feeling that the program reached its goals.

Excitingly, we have launched RSF on Facebook and Twitter, many thanks to Dr. Marrah Lachowicz-Scroggins, Dr. Dhananjay Tambe, Dr. Karina Serban and Dr. Rich Johnston for driving this initiative. We hope these sites will grow into an informative networking platform for researchers at all stages in their careers but particularly hope that it will be a way of introducing new members to the RSF Assembly and keeping them engaged and interacting. Look for the RSF Assembly group on Facebook and ask to “join the group.” Once you become a member of the RSF Group, you will be able to start posting! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/ATS-RSF-Assembly/508565009274117>. On Twitter, please look for the RSF Assembly group and “follow” https://twitter.com/ATS_RSFF. Also, please do contact me if you have any comments or are interested in getting involved in the RSF Assembly (charlotte.billington@nottingham.ac.uk). See you in Denver!

Meet Your Mentor **HERE!**



Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2015 ATS International Conference in Denver, 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 Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in room Plaza Court 5 (Concourse Level). The room will be available:

Friday May 15th – Tuesday May 19th, 2015 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday May 20th 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!

Other opportunities to meet:

- 1) New Member Meet and Greet – this occurs 30 minutes prior each Assembly Membership Meeting
- 2) Early Career Professionals' Corner
Science and Innovation Center (Denver Convention Center)
Tuesday, May 19th, 2015
7:00– 8:00 a.m.
Light breakfast will be served

For more information on the Mentorship Programs, contact Breana Portelli at bportelli@thoracic.org.

Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2015 ATS International Conference in Denver

If you're developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Policy Statement, Research Statement, Clinical Practice Guideline, Workshop Report, or Technical Standards), please consider attending one or more of these free opportunities while you are in Denver at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop: Friday, May 15th from 6-9 PM, Governor's 14, Concourse Level, Plaza Building, Sheraton Denver Downtown. This session is required for both current and new guideline panel chairs, as well as the chairs of new document projects. The session is recommended for the chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Please RSVP to Katrina Gorres at kgorres@thoracic.org if you have not already done so. The schedule is as follows:
 - o 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.
 - o 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.
- Guideline methodology training program: All ATS clinical practice guidelines require the support of an experienced methodologist; however, there is a shortage of methodologists from which to derive the support. The ATS has a guideline methodology training program that provides on-the-job training to individuals who are interested in becoming a methodologist. Applications for the training program are available at <http://www.thoracic.org/statements/document-development/index.php>. An informational session is being held on Monday, May 18th from 7 pm until 8:30 pm at the ATS International Conference for anyone who is interested in learning more about the program. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Kevin C. Wilson, MD, ATS Senior Director of Documents and Medical Affairs at kwilson@thoracic.org. Space is limited.
- Ad Hoc meetings: If your project committee is having a full day, half day, or meal meeting in Denver, you have the opportunity to schedule an appointment for Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor and ATS Senior Director of Documents and Medical Affairs) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist) to stop by your committee meeting to discuss and answer questions about Official ATS Documents. To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or Jan Brozek at brozekj@mcmaster.ca. Please indicate the name of your panel and a range of time that would be appropriate for their visit.
- Office Hours: Stop by our second annual "Office Hours" to meet and talk with Dr. Kevin Wilson and/or Dr. Jan Brozek about any Official ATS Document related matters. Contact John Harmon at jharmon@thoracic.org for dates and times.

ATS Patient Education Resources

- ATS continues to expand its patient education resources - there are currently more than 70 high quality patient oriented fact sheets on a range of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep topics including both common and rare diseases such as COPD, VCD, and HPS; common procedures and diagnostic tests such as sleep studies, lung function studies, and bronchoscopy; and special focus topics including palliative care and lung cancer prevention. These fact sheets are available at no cost via the ATS website at www.thoracic.org under the Patients Tab. See pieces that you like? Feel free to use them in your practice and share them with others! Have new topics you'd like to propose? Contact Judy Corn at jcorn@thoracic.org with your ideas and feedback.

ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

At the 2014 Leadership Summit, assembly leaders voted to establish an ATS Assembly Challenge in support of the ATS Foundation. The Challenge kicked off on #GivingTuesday, on December 2, 2014, a special day worldwide dedicated to the joy of giving, and ran all month long.

Gifts both large and small were received and much appreciated. December giving from assembly members rose from \$121,970 in 2013 to \$170,974 in 2014—an increase of \$49,000! These gifts are greatly meaningful to young investigators at risk of terminating their careers in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. Your generous gifts to the ATS Foundation help launch careers dedicated to scientific discovery and better patient care.



Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology; Gregory P. Downey, MD, chair for the Assembly on Allergy Immunology & Inflammation; and Kristin A. Riekert, PhD, chair for the Assembly on Behavioral Science and Health Services Research, proudly display their 2014 ATS Assembly Challenge awards

Personal outreach from assembly chairs especially helped drive giving to the ATS Foundation.

“Without member support, amazing programs such as MECOR and young investigator research grants wouldn’t exist. If every ATS member gave even a small donation, even more ground-breaking research and training could be supported,” said **Kristin A. Riekert, PhD**, chair for the Assembly on Behavioral Science and Health Services Research.

Dr. Riekert sent personal messages to her fellow BSHR members to encourage them to give, and capitalized on the momentum of #GivingTuesday to encourage giving. That outreach made a tremendous difference.

Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, also sent messages to his fellow RCMB members and spurred giving through #GivingTuesday.

“For me the participation of RCMB members in the assembly challenge was very, very meaningful,” said Dr. Kaminski. “The fact that they made the effort and donated (and many did) demonstrated their commitment to our community and to the future of respiratory research.”

There were three ways to win the Challenge: be the assembly with the most dollars raised in 2014, be the assembly with the highest member participation rate, and be the assembly with the largest average gift per member.

Allergy Immunology & Inflammation raised the most dollars in the ATS Assembly Challenge with \$63,549. **Behavioral Science and Health Services Research** had the highest member participation with 20.86%, and the largest average gift per member with \$98.27. **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology**'s outstanding outreach efforts led to the creation of a brand new award in recognition of having the most first-time givers. Their outreach efforts inspired 26 members to give to the Foundation for the very first time during December alone!

Congratulations to the Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, Behavioral Science and Health Services Research, and Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology assemblies! They will receive special recognition in a number of ATS communications, at ATS 2015, and within their own assemblies.

The ATS Foundation would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their generous support and for rising to the challenge. Your giving is life-changing for young investigators, patients, and communities worldwide. To learn more about the ATS Foundation or to make a gift, visit foundation.thoracic.org.



Enter the BEAR Cage

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the BEAR Cage (Building Education to Advance Research) competition was open to all ATS members who are early career investigators. 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 2015. You are invited to join us at the Science and Innovation Center 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.

Connect with your ATS assembly on social networks for the latest on journal clubs, webinars, ATS International Conference activities, and much more!

On Facebook:

ATS All Assembly
ATS SRN Assembly
ATS MTPI
ATS Assembly on
Thoracic Oncology

ATS RSF Assembly
RCMB Assembly
of the American
Thoracic Society
ATS Section on Genetics
and Genomics

ATS Environmental,
Occupational and
Population Health
Early Faculty/Fellows
ATS Nursing Assembly

On Twitter:

@ATS_All @PR_Assembly
@ATSSRN @ATS_PC
@ATS_MTPI @ATSNursing
@atstoa @ATS_RCMB
@ATS_RSf



Also look for the main ATS social media accounts:

Twitter: @atscommunity
Facebook: American Thoracic Society

Instagram: atscommunity
LinkedIn: American Thoracic Society



*Assembly on
Respiratory Structure and Function
Membership Meeting*

*Monday, May 18th
5:00pm-7:00pm*

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel

*Grand Ballroom 1
Second Level*

*Assembly on
Respiratory Structure and Function
Reception*

*Monday, May 18th
7:00pm-10:00pm*

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel

*Grand Ballroom 2
Second Level*

**Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application
for funding in FY2016!**

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2016. 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 Raymond B. Penn at raymond.penn@jefferson.edu.

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: mrodriguez@thoracic.org.

Help Us 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](#).

[ink is: <https://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php>]

By keeping your profile current, you help us provide programs and services that are targeted to you, and it also ensures accuracy when you register for the International Conference.

Refer a Fellow to the ATS!

Do you know a Fellow who could benefit from ATS membership? Nearly 20 per cent of ATS members are currently in training, and many ATS leaders joined as Fellows too. And there's a BONUS! ATS Trainee Members receive their **first year of membership for FREE!** After the first year, trainee member dues are just \$100 per year for US members, and \$40 per year for international members, as long as the member is still in training. Read what Trainee members say about the value of membership:

ATS membership helps you to keep up-to-date with innovations in pulmonary medicine with access to journals, publications, guidelines and the Fellows corner.

Ajay Kasi, California

The ATS membership is the best option to participate in the world's biggest thoracic society, be an important part of scientific exchange and access the best scientific publications.

Adrian Ceccato, Argentina

My membership gives me the opportunity to expand my knowledge on pulmonary diseases in general and in interstitial lung diseases in particular through news, e-mails, journals, special learning opportunities (like the ILD video series) and the annual meeting.

Sandra Chartrand, Canada