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# Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis

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Editor: Kristina Crothers, MD

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR



Kristina Crothers, MD

Welcome to the 2019 Spring Newsletter of the ATS Assembly on Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PI-TB)! I am excited for the upcoming International Conference in Dallas and hope to see you there. Thanks to the hard work of the Program Committee, led by Chair Dr. Rachel Thomson and Chair-elect Dr. Charles DelaCruz, we are sponsoring or co-sponsoring a fantastic series of sessions on pulmonary infections, TB, and nontuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) disease. It promises to be a terrific program!

For those both old and new to the Assembly, I hope that you will join us at our Membership Meeting on Monday evening 5/20. We will start with a reception from 4:30-5:15 to allow all members to interact, and for new members to learn about the assembly, ATS in general, and how to get involved. Representatives from the Early Career Working Group (ECWG) led by Dr. Bashar Staitieh will be at the reception to help orient and introduce new members to our leadership, committee and work group members. There will be a cash bar and light food.

At the Membership Meeting, we will be presenting the PI-TB Abstract Scholarships and the Junior, Mid-Career, and Senior Mentoring Awards. We had many competitive applications for these prestigious awards. We will also be presenting a special posthumous PI-TB Lifetime Distinguished Achievement Award to an esteemed colleague, Dr. Fred Gordin. Dr. David Cohn will present this award to Dr. Gordin's wife, Dr. Anne Willoughby. Please join us in honoring Dr. Gordin.

I am excited to report several new initiatives within PI-TB focused on junior members. We have a new Apprenticeship Program placing junior members in both the Program and Planning committees. We are continuing our successful Mentoring program, run by the ECWG. We have also launched a fun new Teaching Competition at ATS, spearheaded by Dr. Staitieh, that will be held starting at 11:45 am on Monday, May 20th – please join us and pack the room to support our aspiring clinician educators!

PI-TB is also participating in initiatives focused on enhancing the experience of PhD investigators within ATS. Two of our members (Drs. Samantha Yeligar and Samithamby Jeyaseelan) are serving as representatives in the multi-Assembly PhD Working Group. This year, PI-TB took the lead under the direction of Dr. Amali Samarasinghe to plan programming for the Science and Innovation Center (SIC). The PI-TB winners of the Rising Star Awards will present their work at the SIC sessions on Sunday afternoon, followed by a PhD and Basic Science Reception.

This past year has been an active one the PI-TB Assembly. We are one of the most productive assemblies in the ATS, with a diverse and energetic membership. Our members continue to produce outstanding guidelines, documents, and workshops. Two clinical guidelines are currently in the review process (Continued on Page 2)

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR (*Continued*)

including one on community acquired pneumonia and a second on NTM.

We are increasing our web presence, led by Dr. Colin Swenson as Chair of the Web Committee, with an emphasis on developing podcasts, journal clubs, and a Twitter feed. Let us know if you are interested in joining this growing committee.

Even though it seems early, this is the time to start planning proposals for next year's meeting in 2020. Meet with your colleagues and brainstorm about sessions that you would like to see or people you would like to hear from next year. The proposals are usually due around the time that you start to recover from this year's meeting! We are also seeking new projects to be submitted through the PI-TB Planning Committee, led by Dr. Jussi Saukkonen, so be thinking about new guideline statements, documents, workshops, conferences or other novel products. We will have sign-up sheets and time for you to interact with members of the Program and Planning Committee at the Membership Meeting on 5/20, so come armed with new ideas to discuss!

Finally, I am indebted to the ATS staff as well as to our Committees, work groups and members for their contributions and hard work on behalf of the PI-TB Assembly and ATS. Please read on to see updates from each of our standing Assembly Committees and Working Groups. I hope that the work of these dedicated colleagues will inspire you to become more involved in our Assembly and in the ATS. Please reach out to me if you are interested in getting involved, have feedback or new ideas to suggest ([crothk@uw.edu](mailto:crothk@uw.edu)).

Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive meeting in Dallas, and I look forward to seeing you soon!

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

Jussi Saukkonen, MD, Chair

The central role of the PI-TB Assembly Planning Committee is to foster the development of guidelines and other reference documents through the expertise in pulmonary infections of Assembly members. The Planning Committee solicits proposals for such documents from the Assembly and reviews and evaluates proposals and progress reports of existing working groups for such projects. The Committee met in-person at the ATS International Conference last May in San Diego to discuss existing and potential new projects. At this meeting, it was recommended that new projects be specific and try to address a relatively small number of PICO questions, two to three, in order to complete the guideline process in a timely manner. In response to the Planning Committee's solicitation of new projects there were three proposals on mucosal vaccination for influenza and RSV, microbiome and asthma, and pneumonia in the immunocompromised host. There were also five projects submitted for renewal. The Committee reviewed, scored, and prioritized applications for funding consideration by the ATS Program Review Subcommittee. While new project proposals did not go forward this year, renewals were approved for guidelines on fungal infections, non-tuberculous mycobacterial infection, and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis. In addition, renewals for workshops on host factors in pneumonia and antibiotic stewardship in the ICU were approved.

Two pilot projects were launched and are in progress. The first is a comparison of CORE (Delphi-type expert opinion process) and GRADE methodologies for developing community acquired pneumonia recommendations. The second is a pilot test of a single PICO question focused guideline, approved by the ATS Executive Committee: "Should non-influenza viral PCR be obtained at the time of diagnosis in an adult with community acquired pneumonia?" Responding to an initiative from the Assembly's active Early Career Working Group (ECWG), the Planning Committee approved participation in a new apprenticeship program. The ECWG nominated several candidates to the Planning Committee, which is pleased to welcome Dr. Ashley Losier, at Yale University, to "apprentice" for one year.

The Planning Committee also reviewed nominees for Rising Stars, Junior, Mid-Career and Senior Assembly Awards. The nominees were exceptional, making the review and final selections very difficult. Winners will be announced at the ATS PI-TB Assembly Membership Meeting in Dallas.

The Planning Committee invites Assembly members to consider and begin talking with colleagues about proposals for guidelines, workshop reports and other documents. The deadline for submitting proposals is very shortly after the ATS meeting, usually July 31st, so advance discussions and planning are strongly encouraged. Revisions of previously submitted proposals are also welcome. Information about the project proposal process can be found at: <http://www.thoracic.org/statements/document-development/module-b.php>.

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## PLANNING COMMITTEE (Continued)

Information about ATS document development is available at the following link: <http://www.thoracic.org/statements/document-development/index.php>

We welcome suggestions for projects and participation, ideas, feedback and other commentary for the Planning Committee.

Thank you to the members of the Planning Committee and to those who submitted project proposals for their hard work on behalf of the Assembly!

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Rachel Thomson, MBBS, PhD, FRACP, Chair, and Charles S. Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, Chair-Elect

This year we are excited to present a comprehensive representation of Pulmonary Infections and TB in the ATS conference program. Some excellent major symposia were submitted by our assembly members, then assessed and scored by the program committee. Our allocated four major symposia (PI-TB as the primary sponsoring assembly) cover Community acquired pneumonia, Bronchiectasis, Translational developments in TB, and Host directed therapies for TB. We have also successfully partnered with other assemblies to program five additional jointly sponsored symposia which cover Lung disease and HIV, the Lung Microbiome, Global perspectives on Climate change, complement as a novel target to mitigate lung disease and Macrophages: lineage, diversity and lung disease.

At the September meeting we collaborate with other assemblies to get the best scheduling for our allocated sessions, though each year, the Wednesday slots are rotated and assigned by ATS. As such this year, we were allocated to Wednesday afternoon. Charles and I have tried to align interest areas into consecutive days to make it easier for planning and attendance, so if your area of interest is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, there should be other PI-TB sessions of interest on Wednesday morning and Tuesday.

We have 2 post graduate courses, both scheduled for Saturday 18th May- Lung innate immunity: on the frontlines of host defence, and A Roadmap for all things NTM. In addition, there are 3 Meet the Professor sessions (Endemic mycoses; LTB in special settings; Management of severe CAP), 3 Sunrise sessions (Design of microbiome studies; Macrolide resistant MAC; BAL in the immunocompromised host) and one Workshop (Pneumonia in the immunocompromised host). Bronchiectasis will also feature as an Adult core curriculum topic and Mycobacterial infections, and Sepsis and septic shock will be covered in Clinical Year in Review.

>500 abstracts were submitted for review and we are very grateful to the members of the program committee who scored these. As a result, we have a number of mini-symposia, poster discussion and thematic poster sessions, covering all areas of pulmonary infections that we scheduled in competition with the other assemblies at the December meeting. In addition, 2 major late breaking abstracts have been included in the Special LBA clinical trial symposium.

The ATS is keen to develop better ways of running poster discussion sessions. Positive feedback from most assemblies has led to us electing to trial the RAPID format for all of our PD sessions this year. This format requires a degree of preparation by session chairs and speakers, but with practice and familiarity this will hopefully result in more productive presentation and discussion for both the researchers and audience.

As a committee, we can only program sessions that are submitted by our assembly membership, so we would like to encourage all members to start thinking about what they would like on the program and submit proposals for ATS 2020.

(Continued on Page 4)

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

I would like to thank the members of the Program Committee for their hard work over the year:

Abdullah Sayiner, MD, PhD	Adithya Cattamanchi, MD	Alexa Pragman, MD, PhD	Amali Samarasinghe, PhD
Anne O'Donnell, MD	Ashwin Basavaraj, MD	Bashar Staitieh, MD	Charles Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF
Christina Yoon, MD, MPH, MSCR	David Horne, MD, MPH	David Lewinsohn, MD, PhD	Elham Karamooz, MD
Engi Attia, MD, MPH	Eric Mortensen, MD, MSc	Janice Leung, MD	Philip A. LoBue, MD
Joseph Keane, MD	Kenneth Olivier, MD, MPH	Kevin Winthrop, MD, MPH	Leopoldo Segal, MD
Mark Metersky, MD	Michael Holt, MBBS, BSc	Nathan Dean, MD	Oleg Epelbaum, MD, ATSF
Pamela McShane, MD	Patricio Escalante, MD	Paula Payreni, MD	Ronald Grossman, MD
Shannon Kasperbauer, MD			

Finally, we would like to offer sincere thanks to the ATS staff for their support, organization, and patience, in particular Francine Comi, Nancy Guerrero, Miriam Rodriguez, D'Ann Brown, Liliana Rose, Ho Young Hung, Bridget Nance and Maria Novozhilova.

## ATS 2019 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY ON PULMONARY INFECTIONS AND TUBERCULOSIS SESSIONS

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Postgraduate Courses</b>			
<b>Saturday, May 18, 2019</b>			
PG21	LUNG INNATE IMMUNITY: ON THE FRONTLINES OF HOST DEFENSE	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG22	ALL THINGS NTM: A ROAD MAP TO THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF NONTUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Scientific Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
A89	COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA 2019: AN INTERACTIVE SESSION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
C8	BRONCHIECTASIS: MOVING BEYOND THE VICIOUS CYCLE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C89	TRANSLATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN TB: TOWARDS IMPROVING PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
D9	HOST DIRECTED THERAPY FOR TUBERCULOSIS: THEORY AND CURRENT EVIDENCE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Jointly-Developed Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
A91	WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE MIGHT HURT YOU: THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN THE MICROBIOME AND IMMUNITY IN LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
C12	MACROPHAGES: LINEAGE, DIVERSITY, AND LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
D90	IMPROVING (LUNG) HEALTH IN PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
<b>Sunrise Seminars</b>			
<b>Monday, May 20, 2019</b>			
SS112	MACROLIDE-RESISTANT MYCOBACTERIUM AVIUM COMPLEX PULMONARY DISEASE: CURRENT CONCEPTS	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
SS213	BRONCHOALVEOLAR LAVAGE IN THE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST: MOVING BEYOND TRADITIONAL DIAGNOSTIC METHODS FOR FUNGAL INFECTION	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
SS313	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF HUMAN LUNG MICROBIOME STUDIES	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
<b>Meet The Professor Seminars</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
MP410	ENDEMIC MYCOSES OF NORTH AMERICA AND BEYOND	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2019</b>			
MP508	DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS IN LATENT TB INFECTION IN SPECIAL SETTINGS	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
MP611	THE MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH SEVERE COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
<b>Mini-Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
A18	NTM: HOW, WHERE OR WHY DID I GET IT?	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2019</b>			
B19	ADVANCES IN THE TREATMENT OF NTM	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
C98	HOST RESPONSE TO LUNG INFECTIONS: INSIGHTS INTO NEW MECHANISMS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
D97	FUNGAL INFECTIONS: FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
<b>RAPiD: Rapid Abstract Poster Discussion Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
A28	BACTERIAL AND VIRAL LUNG INFECTIONS AND PATHOGENESIS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
A106	NTM: BENCH TO BEDSIDE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2019</b>			
B109	WHAT'S NEW WITH CLINICAL LUNG INFECTIONS AND PNEUMONIA?	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B110	MYCOBACTERIAL HOST DEFENSE AND PATHOGENESIS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
C27	TB TREATMENT	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C105	BRONCHIECTASIS: FROM CLINICAL PHENOTYPES TO TREATMENT	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Thematic Poster Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
A57	NTM: CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A58	NTM: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CLINICAL STUDIES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2019</b>			
B57	CLINICAL STUDIES IN LUNG INFECTIONS: RISK FACTORS AND BIOMARKERS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B58	CLINICAL STUDIES IN LUNG INFECTIONS AND PNEUMONIA: TREATMENT AND OUTCOMES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B59	BACTERIAL INFECTION CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
C53	TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C54	TUBERCULOSIS EPIDEMIOLOGY	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C55	TUBERCULOSIS DIAGNOSIS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C56	HIV: CLINICAL STUDIES AND BASIC SCIENCE MODELS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C57	VIRAL LUNG INFECTION CLINICAL STUDIES AND CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
D57	ATYPICAL PNEUMONIAS AND OTHER INFECTIONS	9:15 AM	3:30 PM
D58	PLEURAL INFECTION CLINICAL CASE AND STUDIES	9:15 AM	3:30 PM
D59	FUNGAL INFECTION CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	3:30 PM

**ATS 2019 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST TO PI-TB ASSEMBLY**

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time
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Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Postgraduate Courses</b>			
<b>Friday, May 17, 2019</b>			
PG2	ECMO FOR EXPERIENCED PROVIDERS	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG4	FUNDAMENTALS OF WRITING SUCCESSFUL MENTORED CLINICAL RESEARCH GRANTS (FUND ME)	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG5	THORACIC IMAGING FOR PULMONARY MEDICINE AND CRITICAL CARE PRACTITIONERS	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Saturday, May 18, 2019</b>			
PG15	A CLINICIAN'S GUIDE TO LUNG TRANSPLANTATION	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Scientific Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2019</b>			
A5	CELL FATE DETERMINATION IN THE LUNG IN HEALTH AND DISEASE: LOCATION AND NEIGHBORS MATTER	9:15AM	11:15 AM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2019</b>			
B3	FELLOWS CASE CONFERENCE	9:15AM	11:15 AM
B7	GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE CHANGE: IMPACT ON SUSCEPTIBLE POPULATIONS AND LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES	9:15AM	11:15 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</b>			
C88	COMPLEMENT AS A NOVEL TARGET TO MITIGATE LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C92	ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES: CLINICAL PRACTICE ON THE CUTTING EDGE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
D4	BIG DATA AND CLINICAL TRIALS: FRIENDS, FOES, OR FRENEMIES?	9:15AM	11:15 AM
<b>Workshop</b>			
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</b>			
WS7	CRISPR: BREAKING BAD FOR THE GOOD OF ADVANCING SCIENCE	11:45 AM	1:15 PM

## EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP

Bashar Staitieh, MD, Chair

Greetings from the PI-TB Early Career Working Group! The executive committee has charged us with recruiting, engaging, and creating opportunities within the assembly for our junior members. We have a lot of exciting news to report from the past year:

### Mentorship Program:

The mentorship program continues to be a great opportunity for junior members to network with more senior members of the assembly. We've just completed our mentorship matches for ATS 2019, and we're happy to report that the program continues to be both popular and well-supported. As always, our sincere thanks to our volunteer mentors for their time and expertise.

(Continued on Page 8)

# EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP

Bashar Staitieh, MD, Chair

## **Apprenticeship Program:**

Thanks to the support of the Program and Planning Committees, the ECWG launched a new Apprenticeship program this year to give junior members an opportunity for committee experience. Our inaugural apprenticeship class consists of Katrina Traber (Program Committee) and Ashley Losier (Planning Committee), so give them your congratulations if you see them at the meeting!

## **Teaching Competition:**

As part of our continuing efforts to acknowledge the amazing talents of our junior members, we'll be hosting a brand-new teaching competition at ATS 2019. Our junior members will duke it out for the top prize in front of a panel of esteemed PI-TB judges. There will be blood! Or sputum! Either way, come on down and join us on Monday, May 20 at 11:45AM for some great learning opportunities and a chance to support your junior colleagues.

## **Orientation at ATS 2019:**

As in the past few years, the ECWG will be holding an orientation session for new members just before the assembly business meeting at the International Conference. If you're new to the assembly, join us at the Hyatt Regency, Room: Reunion AB, Lobby Level on Monday, May 20th from 4:30 – 5:00PM for some tips on engaging with the assembly and a chance to engage with assembly leadership.

The PI-TB ECWG is:

Bashar Staitieh (Chair), John McGinniss (Co-Chair), Sara Auld, Keira Cohen, Laura Gleeson, Jennifer Honda, Elham Karamooz, Chad Marion, Melissa McDonnell, Kelly Pennington, Alexa Pragman, Krishna Reddy, Lokesh Sharma, Colin Swenson, Ben Wu, and Samantha Yeligar.

For more details on our myriad projects, visit us on the web at: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/pitb/working-groups/early-career-professional-working-group/index.php>

Our next meeting will be held at the ATS 2019 International Conference in Dallas on Monday, May 20th at 6:30AM. If you are interested in joining us, drop us a line at [bashar.staitieh@emory.edu](mailto:bashar.staitieh@emory.edu).

A special thanks to Nicole, Miriam, Debbie, Vlad, and the rest of the ATS staff for their hard work and help this year.

Assembly and a chance to engage with assembly leadership.

The PI-TB ECWG is:

Bashar Staitieh (Chair), John McGinniss (Co-Chair), Sara Auld, Keira Cohen, Laura Gleeson, Jennifer Honda, Elham Karamooz, Chad Marion, Melissa McDonnell, Kelly Pennington, Alexa Pragman, Krishna Reddy, Lokesh Sharma, Colin Swenson, Ben Wu, and Samantha Yeligar.

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A special thanks to Nicole, Miriam, Debbie, Vlad, and the rest of the ATS staff for their hard work and help this year.

See you in Dallas!

## WEB COMMITTEE

Colin Swenson, MD, Web Director

It's an exciting time for the PI-TB Web Committee and changes are afoot. ATS has rolled-out the MyATS feature, enabling a more personal website navigation experience. As part of MyATS, users can quickly save important content for future reference, as well as access ATS clinical guidelines in delivering patient care. Users can also quickly find other ATS members, contact those members via the chat feature, and build working groups for collaborative projects. Members can also access their assembly projects with which they are involved, all in one place.

While MyATS is simplifying navigation of the organization's site, our corner of the site (namely our assembly page) is seeing continued growth as information and content are updated. As part of this growth we have added or updated rosters, added clinical updates and guidelines, and linked-through to relevant partner content. We are also making available our assembly's past webinars, podcasts, journal clubs and associated articles.

Speaking of those journal clubs and webinars, the second half of 2018 and early 2019 saw two webinars broadcasted and three journal clubs. Attendance numbers steadily increased, and we hope to attract more participants as the frequency and regularity of PI-TB web offerings improves. Podcasts, perhaps the easiest streaming content, continues to be an area where our assembly can improve. Our members are some of the most productive (and interesting!) people in all of ATS, which is the perfect recipe for engaging podcasts. We invite any assembly member to submit his or her recorded content as part of our push to improve our podcast offerings. In the meantime, check out our past webcasts, podcasts and journal clubs at <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/pitb/journal-club/archive.php> or <https://www.thoracic.org/professionals/ats-webinars/index.php>. If you're on Twitter, our handle is @ATS\_PITB.

2019 will continue to be an exciting time for us as we continue to produce content and upgrade our assembly page. We also plan to partner with other assemblies in joint endeavors, including webinars, journal clubs, and article summaries. We hope you stay tuned!

## ACUTE PNEUMONIA WORKING GROUP

Charles S. Dela Cruz, MD and Scott Evans, MD, Co-Chairs

We established a Working Group in 2015 that is multidisciplinary, represents both domestic and international ATS membership, and includes early career members who are interested in the topic of acute pneumonia. This working group was successful at raising the interest of the PITB assembly membership in this topic and drove the development of three pneumonia focused workshops: the Workshop on Antibiotic Stewardship in the ICU (ATS 2016), the first-ever NIH Workshop focusing on understanding pneumonia from the perspective of the host (NHLBI 2017) and the Workshop on Understanding the Host in the Management of Pneumonia (ATS 2018). This working group was renewed in 2018.

**This PITB Pneumonia Working Group's overarching goal remains working to enhance the voice of ATS and the PITB Assembly as advocates for improved research and clinical outcomes for patients with acute pneumonia.** The specific focus of the Working Group will be enhanced awareness and understanding of the immunocompromised host in pneumonia, with the goal of enhancing interest in studying, treating and improving outcomes of pneumonia.

The specific goals of the current working group renewal are to:

- 1) Improve our understanding of the immunocompromised host (ICH) and pneumonia (an area that requires better definition and approach)
- 2) Enhance awareness of pneumonia and pneumonia complications by establishing connection with ATS communications/marketing, ATS patient education unit and ATS patient organization (PAR);
- 3) Work on a policy brief on pneumonia (including antibiotic resistance) for internal and external advocacy purposes;

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## ACUTE PNEUMONIA WORKING GROUP (CONTINUED)

- 4) Work on methods to increase early career investigators to address acute pneumonia as their research focus and, secondarily, encourage researchers to find a home in PITB and encourage collaboration with other Assembly members

The Working Group have updated the Top 20 fact sheet on pneumonia in 2018. For this, please refer to <https://www.thoracic.org/patients/patient-resources/resources/top-pneumonia-facts.pdf>. These facts will be made into single panel infographics to be sent out to the ATS, the pulmonary and critical care community and the public at large through social media such as Twitter. The goal of this initiative is to raise awareness of the importance of pneumonia. We have partnered with Leith Greenslade from Just Actions and Save the Children who is interested in the advocacy efforts for pneumonia. They have formally joined ATS Public Advocacy Roundtable (PAR) with the goal of continuing these efforts through ATS. We are also working with the NHLBI and NIAID on research priorities and strategy related pneumonia.

We would like to thank members of the ATS including Maria Novozhilova and Miriam Rodriguez, as well as the following working group members:

*Carlos Luna, MD, PhD*

*Chadi Hage, MD, ATSF*

*Charles Feldman MD, PhD, DSc, ATSF*

*Joseph Mizgerd, ScD, ATSF*

*Kristina Crothers, MD*

*Mark Metersky, MD*

*Nathan Dean, MD*

*Richard Wunderink, MD*

*Rosario Menendez, MD*

*Samantha Yeligar, PhD, MS*

*Shawn Skerrett, MD*

## SCIENCE AND INNOVATION CENTER WORKING GROUP

Amali E. Samarasinghe, PhD, Chair

The genesis of the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) was based on a need to provide a networking platform for basic and translational scientists at the annual conference of the American Thoracic Society. The SIC program for the 2019 ATS conference which focuses on novel techniques and career development, was an amalgamation of effort from chairs and co-chairs from our Assembly as well as RSF, AII, RCMB. In collaboration with the PhD Working Group, the SIC will host a reception for basic and translational scientists on Sunday May 19th following the Rising Star and Abstract Award presentations. I am honored to have represented PI-TB in the SIC planning committee comprised of 16 members, and I want to thank Lauren Krampen and Liz Guzman for being the core of the SIC.

The SIC program can be located at <http://conference.thoracic.org/attendees/resource-centers/science-innovation-center.php>; be sure to join your colleagues as they present or host sessions at the SIC during the conference.

*Assembly on Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis  
Membership Meeting*

*Monday, May 20th  
4:30pm-7:00pm*

*Hyatt Regency, Dallas  
Reunion AB*

*Lobby Level*

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!

American Thoracic Society

ASSEMBLIES



Want to know how the ATS Assemblies and Committees really work?

Would you like to get more involved?

This is your chance! You can now register here to become more involved in the ATS Assemblies, ATS Committees or both. There are many ways to grow within ATS and the Assemblies and Committees are a great starting point.

[www.thoracic.org/go/get-involved](http://www.thoracic.org/go/get-involved)



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## Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2020!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept **NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2020**. 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](http://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 Jussi Saukkonen, MD** at [jsaukk@bu.edu](mailto:jsaukk@bu.edu).

For questions regarding submissions please contact

Miriam Rodriguez at:

tel: (212) 315-8639 or email: [Mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:Mrodriguez@thoracic.org).

### Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot



Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? 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 at the Regency Dallas in the Baker room on the Atrium Level.

#### **The room will be available:**

Sunday, May 19th – Tuesday, May 21st, 2019 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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

#### **Join us at the Mentoring Reception:**

Sunday, May 19th, 4:30-6:30pm  
Monday, May 20th, 7:00-9:00pm  
Baker Room (Atrium Level)

Interested in joining a Mentoring Program? Visit our [Assemblies Mentoring homepage](#) or contact Nicole Feijoo at [NFeijoo@thoracic.org](mailto:NFeijoo@thoracic.org)

## Best of ATS Video Lecture Series (BAVLS)



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

For more information, please visit: <https://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/video-lecture-series/index.php>

**Donate \$ 100 to the ATS Foundation Research Program and receive a pair of ATS –branded lungs as a token of thanks! Donors will be recognized with a picture and a mention on the ATS Instagram account.**



**Donations are being accepted at the ATS Center, booth #2726 in the Exhibit Hall (Hall D)**

**Center Hours: Sunday, May 19 to Tuesday, May 21st from 10:30 a. m — 3:30 p. m**



## Spread the word: Apply for a Research Grant

Last year, ATS awarded 30 grants totaling \$1.6 million  
2019 cycle is now open, offering 15 unrestricted grants, 1 grant specifically for  
nurses, and more!



**Deadline to submit an LOI is Monday, June 17, 2019**

Visit: [thoracic.org/go/researchgrants](http://thoracic.org/go/researchgrants)

## Center for Career Development (CCD)

**Sunday, May 19 – Tuesday, May 21, 2019 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 22 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Dallas**

**Hall B (Level 2)**

**The Center for Career Development is a professional networking and career development forum for early career professionals (medical students, residents, fellows, post docs, other allied healthcare and research professionals) in training or transitioning from training in Pulmonary, Critical Care or Sleep Medicine. Each day, the CCD features informal workshops aimed at enhancing the professional development for all health care professionals. The sessions in the CCD are a unique and valuable opportunity for YOU to interact with experts in PCCM and have your questions answered about career development topics that are important to you!**

See the schedule [here](#).

The ATS has a Guideline Methodology Scholar Program that provides hands-on training in guideline development. An informational program is being held on Monday, May 20th from 7-8:30 PM, Hyatt Regency Dallas, Sanger A (Atrium Level). Anyone who is interested in learning more about clinical practice guideline development and the ATS training program that provides a hands-on experience in clinical practice guideline development is welcome to attend. A light dinner will be served. Please

RSVP to  
[kwilson@thoracic.org](mailto:kwilson@thoracic.org). Space is limited.

Additional information: The field of clinical practice guideline development has changed dramatically over the past decade. Formal standards must now be met as defined by the Institute of Medicine, which include a specific approach to searching for evidence, selecting evidence, summarized evidence, formulating recommendations, and rating the quality of evidence and the strength of the recommendations. The ATS and other guideline developers have learned that to successfully adhere to these standards, a guideline methodologist is necessary on each guideline committee. Clinical practice guideline methodologists are individuals who are capable of leading both systematic reviews (i.e., develop search strategies, select studies, extract data, perform meta-analyses, and construct evidence tables and summary of findings tables) and the formulation and grading of evidence-based recommendations.

The requirement that there be a methodologist on every guideline committee has created an imbalance, with the demand for methodologists far exceeding the supply. As organizations move toward continuously updating guidelines and demand increases, this imbalance will worsen. In order to combat this trend and build methodological capacity, the ATS has a methodology training program that takes individuals who have an interest in learning guideline methodology and places them on a guideline panel that needs methodological support. The trainee does the hands-on methodological work for the panel with guidance from the ATS methodologist and, in return, gains experience and middle co-authorship on the guideline. After working on one or two such guidelines projects, the trainee will likely have the skills necessary to become an independent methodologist. We believe that this is a potential career pathway, particularly well-suited for clinician-educators.

Additional benefits of the program include: a) systematic reviews performed during the development of the guideline are often publishable as independent entities and the trainee would be the first author on such derivatives, b) participation in a methodology training workshop, and c) participation in the Evidence Synthesis Methodology Working Group of the Behavioral Sciences and Health Services Research Assembly. The latter will lead to additional opportunities to participate in various workshops and projects.

Chief, Documents & Medical Affairs  
Kevin Wilson, MD

## *American Thoracic Society Publications*

### **Exciting News!**

The entire archive (43 years) of the *American Review of Tuberculosis* will be available online. Our target date for the release is April 15.

The *American Review of Tuberculosis* was the original name of AJRCCM (from 1917 to 1959). All the articles in these issues are available to ATS members as a benefit of membership.



# ATS 2019 SCIENCE & INNOVATION CENTER

The Science & Innovation Center, located at the **Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Dallas, Hall B (Level 2)**, is a forum for scientists and researchers to meet, network, learn, and rest. The Science & Innovation Center is organized by representatives of the Assemblies on: Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation (AII), Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PI-TB), Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB), and Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF).

**HOURS:** + Sunday, May 19 - Tuesday, May 21 – 7a.m.- 5p.m. + Wednesday, May 22 – 7a.m.- 1p.m.

**DAILY:**

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

Sunday, May 19	Monday, May 20	Tuesday, May 21
7:15 - 8:00 a.m. <b>ATS 101: Cell Fate</b> Jason Rock, PhD, Boston University	7:15 - 8:00 a.m. <b>ATS 101: Neural Control of Inflammation</b> Brenda Marsh, MD, PhD, OHSU	7:15 - 8:00 a.m. <b>Early Career Professionals Coffee Corner</b>
8:15 - 9:15 a.m. <b>Navigating ATS</b> Julie Ledford, PhD, University of Arizona	8:15 - 9:15 a.m. <b>Setting up a Lab</b> Phil Verhoef, MD, PhD, University of Chicago	8:15 - 9:15 a.m. <b>Mentorship: A Key to Success</b> Laura Crotty-Alexander, MD, University of California at San Diego Anne Sperling, PhD, University of Chicago
9:15 - 10:00 a.m. <b>PRDS Orientation</b>	9:15 - 10:00 a.m. <b>Hiring Lab Management</b> Chad Steele, PhD, Tulane University	9:15 - 10:00 a.m. <b>Building Your Track Record for Career Success</b> Greg Downey, MD, National Jewish Health
10:15 - 11:00 a.m. <b>ATS 101: RNA Seq</b> Jay Kolls, MD, Tulane University Naftali Kaminski, MD, Yale University	10:15 - 11:00 a.m. <b>ATS 101: Imaging</b> Yan Bai, MD, Harvard University Steven Rowe, MD, University of Alabama	10:15 - 11:00 a.m. <b>ATS Foundation Grants</b> Erin Marie Nebel, ATS
11:00 - 11:45 a.m. <b>Lunch &amp; Learn: RNA Seq Data</b>	11:00 - 11:45 a.m. <b>Lunch &amp; Learn: Imaging</b>	11:00 - 11:45 a.m. <b>NIH Grants/Working with Industry</b> Taylor Cohen, PhD, MedImmune Lora Reineck, MD, NIH Ghenima Dirami, PhD, NIH
12:00 - 3:00 p.m. <b>Rising Star and SIC Abstract Awards</b>	12:00 - 12:45 p.m. <b>From Innovative Ideas to Clinical Trials</b> Hector Ortega, MD, Gossamer Bio David Lagares, PhD, Harvard Tim Watkins, MD, Gilead	12:00 - 12:45 p.m. <b>Lunch &amp; Learn: Grants and Funding</b>
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. <b>PhD and Basic Science Reception</b>	1:00 - 3:00 p.m. <b>BEAR CAGE COMPETITION</b> 	1:00 - 1:45 p.m. <b>Bridging the Gap (MD Perspective)</b> Josh Englert, MD, Ohio State University John Christman, MD, Ohio State University
	3:30 - 4:30 p.m. <b>Minority Trainee Development Scholarship Reception</b>	1:45 - 2:45 p.m. <b>Bridging the Gap (PhD Perspective)</b> Beth Moore, PhD, University of Michigan Megan Ballinger, PhD, Ohio State University
		3:00 - 4:30 p.m. <b>Relax and Recharge</b>



**ATS 2019**  
Where today's science meets tomorrow's care™

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# Third Annual ATS Walking Challenge

## Step up to the Third Annual ATS Walking Challenge.

Every step helps raise money for the ATS Foundation. The top 3 overall steppers win a prize and 3 randomly selected participants reaching the 30,000 step goal win a prize. Watch it all unfold on leaderboards in the Mylan, Inc. booth #4333 or at the ATS Walking Challenge booth.

The first 2,000 registrants receive a free ATS wireless activity tracker to use with the App (distributed on a 'first-come, first-served' basis). The 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 win an Ipad Air.

Three randomly selected individuals reaching the 30,000 step goal win Bose QuietControl 30 Wireless headphones!

Learn more and pre-register online at: [hekahealth.com/ats2019](http://hekahealth.com/ats2019) or stop by the Walking Challenge Booth in Lobby D, level 2 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center,

**Supported by:**



## Visit the Mylan, Inc. booth #4333 each day for a step booster.

The more you visit, the more you receive:

**Day 1 - 500 steps; Day 2 -750 steps; and Day 3 - 1,000 steps.**

**Walk for a good cause!** For every participant who walks 30,000 steps, Mylan, Inc. will make a donation of \$100 to the ATS Foundation, for a total maximum donation of \$50,000. Learn more at [Foundation.Thoracic.org](http://Foundation.Thoracic.org).

**May 17 - May 22, 2019 | [conference.thoracic.org](http://conference.thoracic.org)**