Further information about all these initiatives and opportunities can be accessed via the Assembly on RSF website:

Welcome to the ATS Assembly on Respiratory Structure & Function (RSF).

RSF: Who are we and what are our research interests?
Members of the Assembly on RSF are physician-scientists, Ph.D. scientists, and clinicians. Of all ATS Assemblies, RSF may be the broadest scientifically, with a wide array of interests in the integrated behavior of the respiratory system in health and disease.

Areas of interest among RSF members encompass:
- mechanics of the lungs and airways
- airway secretions
- bronchial circulation
- heart-lung interactions
- exercise sciences
- breathing in special environments
- respiratory muscle function
- plasticity of the respiratory system
- airway smooth muscle function
- pulmonary cellular mechanics

• pulmonary gas exchange
• mechanics of the chest wall
• control of ventilation
• innervation of the respiratory system
• respiratory system anatomy and pathology

Why you should join the RSF Assembly
Joining an Assembly is the best way to meet and interact with researchers that share similar interests. Overall, the ATS includes more than 15,000 members, and it’s easy to feel overwhelmed. By joining the Assembly on RSF, you will be joining a group whose research focuses are probably the broadest scientifically, but on a smaller and more manageable scale. Assemblies are responsible for planning the program of the annual International Conference in addition to creating and updating ATS statements, guidelines, and workshop reports.

For junior professionals and trainees (clinical and post-doctoral fellows, residents, medical and graduate students, etc.), there are several activities that the Assembly on RSF has to offer:
• The prospect for professional and social interactions with leaders in the fields of respiratory physiology, biochemistry, anatomy, and molecular and cellular biology, both in health and disease.

• The RSF Mentoring Program, which aligns junior faculty and trainees with a more established member of the Assembly for advice and encouragement about the International Conference and/or career path.

• The RSF Business Meeting and Dinner/Reception at the annual International Conference, where you can meet your peers, share common interests, discuss projects, and witness the presentation of several RSF-specific awards to eligible Assembly members:
  - The Ann Woolcock Memorial Award is presented to an outstanding young investigator.
  - The Joseph R. Rodarte Memorial Award is presented to a senior scientist for lifetime achievements.
  - The Stuart J Hirst Abstract Excellence Award is presented to a trainee with the top-ranked abstract submitted to the Assembly Program Committee.

• Opportunities at the International Conference to chair symposia, facilitate poster discussion sessions, present ideas, and win awards in a friendly and welcoming environment.

How to become involved in RSF activities
The absolute best way to learn about the Assembly, link with peers, socialize, be entertained, and connect with Assembly members is simple: attend the RSF Business Meeting at the annual International Conference and come to our Assembly Dinner/Reception, which is held directly afterwards.

However, there are many other ways to get involved too, for example:
• Serve on one of the RSF standing committees or working groups: Program Committee, Planning Committee, Nominating Committee, and the Members in Transition and Training (MITT) Working Group
• Submit Scientific Symposium, Sunrise Seminar, and Post-Graduate Course proposals for the annual International Conference to the Assembly Program Committee.

And specifically for Junior Professionals:
• Volunteer to serve on the Assembly MITT Working Group, which offers young investigators the opportunity to establish themselves as contributing members of the Assembly and offer support and guidance to others.
• Participate in the Assembly Mentorship Program, which pairs junior professionals with a senior member to foster career development
• Submit your abstract to RSF-specific abstract categories so that you can become eligible for Assembly Scholarship Awards or the Stuart J. Hirst Abstract Excellence Award.