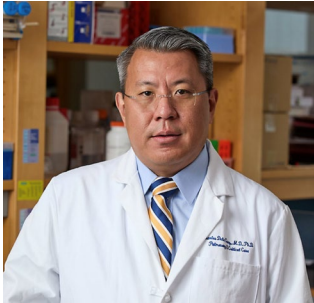


Assembly on Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PI-TB) Newsletter



Message from the Assembly Chair



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This past year has been defined by the transition of COVID-19 as global health emergency to an ongoing health issue and a greater appreciation of how lung infections can cause debilitating respiratory and systemic conditions. Much has been learned about SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory viruses, bacteria, fungal and mycobacteria with regards to their transmission, detection, pathogenesis, host responses, and treatment. We saw two new FDA-approved RSV vaccines available to susceptible individuals with more candidates in the pipeline including vaccines for other respiratory infections.

As we convene at our annual ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA this May 2024, we encourage our PI-TB members and others to continue their efforts and seek out opportunities for educational and advocacy activities to promote respiratory infection awareness, encourage disease prevention with vaccinations, and lobby for funding to support research, new anti-microbial drug development and public health measures.

Our assembly has continued to be active through the leadership of our PI-TB executive committee and their respective committee members. Marcos Restrepo and PJ McShane with their Program Committee members have superbly led the group to program an exciting series of Scientific Symposiums, Joint Symposiums, Mini-Symposiums, Poster Discussions, Thematic Poster Sessions and Post Graduate Course. We thank them and their team for all their hard work and look forward learning about the cutting edge science and clinical advances in pulmonary infections. Alison Morris led the Planning Committee to support the successful approval of a new workshop (Research standards for non-invasive sampling of the lower respiratory tract during acute respiratory failure), and clinical practice guideline update on HAP/VAP, as well as renewal of all existing projects.

The PI-TB Early Career Working Group led by Ashley Losier as Chair and supported by Co-Chair Kelly Pennington continues to be busy with successful efforts with the PINE (Pulmonary Infection Network of Experts) series, Mentee-Mentoring Program, Apprentice Program, and the Teaching Competition. Anukol Shenoy represents PI-TB in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) committee as part of the ATS Networking Super Center. Representing PI-TB, Samantha Yeligar and Amali Samarasinghe led efforts on our behalf in the ATS PhD and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group developing programs to highlight and support the Ph.D. scientists of the Society. Scott Evans and I lead the Pneumonia Advisory Group with continued efforts to highlight the importance of pneumonia in the immunocompromised as well as initiating several global partnerships through joint webinars.

Justin Ortiz continues to lead the important charge of leading the Vaccine and Immunization Working Group. They have joined forces with recent ATS initiatives and collaboration with the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase COVID-19, influenza, and routine vaccination rates among high-risk adult pulmonary patients within the United States.

As the ATS rebranding process continues, our website is undergoing a major overhaul. We thank Amjad Kanj and Eva . They have been important in keeping our assembly informed of relevant events and updates.


I look forward to seeing all of you in person in Washington, D.C. for ATS 2023 International Conference. Through the efforts of many Assembly leaders and members, PI-TB has programmed a broad series of exciting scientific, clinical and educational sessions focused on pulmonary infections. The PI-TB executive committee look forward to seeing all of you at our business meeting as we present our conference abstract scholarships and the results of our PI-TB Assembly awards (Rising Stars, Junior, Mid-Career, and Senior awards).

Charles S. Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF
Assembly Chair

PI-TB Membership Meeting

Sunday, May 19, 2024
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Building Marriott Marquis DC
Room: Pacific Ballroom 24-26
Floor: First Floor, Ground Level, North Tower




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PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Alison Morris, MD, MS (Chair) and Kristina Crothers, MD (Co-Chair)

The PI-TB Assembly Planning Committee fosters the development of Assembly projects, notably clinical practice guidelines and other reference documents, arising from the deep clinical and scientific expertise residing in the Assembly. The Planning Committee encourages and solicits proposals for such documents from the Assembly membership and reviews and evaluates submitted proposals and progress reports for projects already underway.

The PI-TB was again highly successful in achieving Society support for project proposals this year. The 2023 project application cycle saw approval of a new workshop on Research standards for non-invasive sampling of the lower respiratory tract during acute respiratory failure by William Bain, MD at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. We are also very pleased that the Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis and management of patients with HAP/VAP was approved and will be led by Richard Wunderink, MD and Chiagozie Pickens, MD from Northwestern University School of Medicine. All existing projects were also funded for renewal. These include continuations of the clinical practice guidelines on Selected Topics in Fungal Infections in Adult Pulmonary and Critical Care Patients which has been submitted for publication; an update to the Diagnosis and Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia; and an Update to the Treatment of Drug Susceptible Tuberculosis. The workshop report on “Experimental Models of Acute Respiratory Infections and Post-infectious pulmonary complications: Charting the path from infection and injury to chronic lung disease” will also be continued in the upcoming year.

The Planning Committee strongly encourages Assembly members to start early to discuss and work together to submit proposals for Guidelines, Policy or Research Statements, Workshop Reports, and Technical Statements. It is recommended that new guideline projects be specific and try to address limited PICO questions in the GRADE methodology in order to complete the process in a timely manner. To improve chances of preparing an application that is successful in the very competitive ATS selection process, advance preparation and discussion with interested parties is highly recommended. This may include soliciting input and/or participation from the Planning Committee, ATS methodologists and topic experts in the Assembly or elsewhere, as appropriate.

Information on submitting proposals is available on the [Project Application Resource Center](#). The application portal usually opens on August 1 and the online applications usually must be submitted by August 31. However, the Planning Committee recommends working on such projects well in advance.

In addition to supporting project proposals, the Planning Committee also reviews and votes on nominations for the annual Assembly Awards. In 2023, Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD, ATSF was honored with the PITB Senior Peer Recognition Award, the Midcareer Award was awarded to Amali E. Samarasinghe, PhD, and the Early Career Peer Recognition Award went to Samantha Yeligar, MS, PhD. The Rising Star Awards for Basic Scientific and/or Translational Research went to Holly Keir, PhD, BSc and Chiagozie Pickens, MD.

Thank you to the members of the Planning Committee and to those who submitted project proposals and award nominations. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Congratulations to 2023 PI-TB Assembly Awardees.

Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD, ATSF, (PITB Senior Peer Recognition Award)

Dean Schraufnagel is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Sleep and Allergy at the University of Illinois Chicago. He was President of the Chicago Thoracic Society and chaired the ATS Council of Chapter Representatives. He served on many ATS committees including the Communications Committee that helped establish the ATS website. At the time, it was unclear whether the ATS website would be its own medical journal, and Dean served as its first editor. He was ATS President in 2010-11. He was ATS representative, President, and later Executive Director of the Forum of International Respiratory Societies, an organization that advocated for respiratory health at the WHO and UN. He was the ATS representative to the American Lung Association and American Medical Association and served in leadership positions in both of those organizations. He was on the Board of the American Thoracic Society Foundation and chaired it from 2016-2020. He also plays leadership roles in the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) and Vital Strategies. He has conducted basic and clinical research and has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed works and edited 4 books, including **I remember...**, 100 brief vignettes by ATS leaders for the ATS 100th anniversary and **Breathing in America**, writing for members of Congress extolling the accomplishments and importance of respiratory research.



Amali E. Samarasinghe, PhD, (Midcareer Peer Recognition Award)

Amali Samarasinghe is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and the Director of the Pediatric Asthma Research Center at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Dr. Samarasinghe received her undergraduate and master's degrees from California State University, Northridge, and her PhD From North Dakota State University. She has been a contributing member of the ATS community since 2011. Her involvement in the PI-TB assembly began in 2012 where she has served in the capacity of early career group member, director of the webinar journal clubs, co-chair then chair to the science and innovation center, elected member of the nominating committee, and workshop co-chair among other service. In the past, she has been recognized by the PI-TB with the Rising Star Award in 2016 and the Early Career Award in 2017. Dr. Samarasinghe's research program involves elucidating immune responses in the allergic lungs during respiratory viral and bacterial infections with a focus on host-pathogen responses. She is passionate about mentoring the next generation of scientists and medical professionals and collaborates across ATS groups as well as academic institutes engaging scientists at varying career levels from diverse backgrounds. Her dedication to lung health goes beyond research, where she had volunteered on numerous occasions in the ATS outreach programs to lobby lawmakers to secure funding for lung health initiatives during her 4-year tenure in the Research Advocacy Committee. She is also a funded member of the American Lung Association and engages with her local community in Memphis TN to advocate for lung health.



Samantha Yeligar, MS, PhD, (Early Career Peer Recognition Award)

Samantha M. Yeligar is an Associate Professor at Emory University's Department of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine. Dr. Yeligar received her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry with a Biology emphasis from the University of California, Riverside and Master of Science as well as Doctor of Philosophy degrees in

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Southern California. She completed her postdoctoral training at Emory University and joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor in 2015. She has been a member of the ATS since 2011 and a member of the Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis Assembly since 2014. She has previously served the assembly as a member of the Early Career Professionals Working Group (2014 - 2022), Pneumonia Working Group (2018 - 2021), Program Committee (2022 to present), and PhD and Basic and Translational Scientists Working Group (2018 to present), which she currently co-chairs.



Assembly/Committee Project Applications for FY2025

Assembly members interested in submitting a Project application should start developing their ideas. Applications for NEW Assembly Projects for 2025 will be accepted July 1 through July 31, 2024.

If you have an idea or suggestion for a project application and need assistance, please contact your **Assembly Planning Committee Co-Chairs, Alison Morris, MD, MS & Kristina Crothers, MD** at [morrissa@upmc.edu](mailto:morrisa@upmc.edu); kcrothers@medicine.washington.edu

For questions regarding submissions, please see the Project Application Resource Center, or contact Miriam Rodriguez at: (212)315-8639 or mrodriguez@thoracic.org

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Marcos I. Restrepo, MD, MSc, PhD (Chair) and Pamela McShane, MD (Chair elect)

We are grateful to be meeting in person again this May in San Diego, CA. This year, we will have offerings covering a myriad of infections as well as sessions on host defense mechanisms and the microbiome.

As the fourth largest assembly in ATS, PI-TB members submitted excellent competitive proposals and abstracts. We continue to see an increase in abstract submissions, with over 490 abstracts reviewed this year.

In San Diego, CA, we will have a Post Graduate Course on Saturday May 18, 2024. This year there are only 15 PG offerings compared to 19 last year. Four of these were research focused, one related to medical education and 6 with a clinical emphasis. Our submissions were strong but only one made the formal cut.

- PG8: BRONCHIECTASIS AND NTM PULMONARY DISEASE: RISK FACTORS, MANAGEMENT, AND RECENT ADVANCES

There are six scientific symposia developed by PI-TB members and four co-sponsored symposia programmed covering a variety of topics ranging from trained immunity, metabolic interaction between host and microbiota, non-antibiotic therapy for pneumonia, vaccine development, HIV-related lung disease, post TB lung disease and new drugs for MDR-TB.

- A10 SYMP: Sunday May 19, 2024 (9:00-10:30 AM); UNLOCKING THE THERAPEUTIC POTENTIAL OF TRAINED IMMUNITY IN RESPIRATORY DISEASES
- A88 SYMP: Sunday May 19, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); POST-TB LUNG DISEASE: FROM GLOBAL BURDEN TO MOLECULAR MECHANISMS
- A88 SYMP: Sunday May 19, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); METABOLITE INTERACTIONS IN HEALTH AND DISEASE: UNVEILING THE MUTUAL FEEDING BETWEEN HOST AND MICROBIOTA
- B1 YIR: Monday May 20, 2024 (9:00-10:30 AM); CLINICAL YEAR IN REVIEW 2: TUBERCULOSIS
- B10 SYMP: Monday May 20, 2024 (9:00-10:30 AM); NON-ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY FOR PNEUMONIA
- B85 BASIC SCIENCE CORE: Monday May 20, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); LUNG HARMONY: UNRAVELLING THE SYNERGY BETWEEN MACROPHAGES AND ALVEOLAR EPITHELIAL CELLS IN DISEASE
- B86 SYMP: Monday May 20, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH: HEALTH DISPARITIES AND HEALTH CARE INEQUALITY IN RESPIRATORY MEDICINE
- B88 SYMP: Monday May 20, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); CUTTING EDGE VACCINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PULMONARY SUB-SPECIALTY COMMUNITY: VACCINE IMMUNOLOGY, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRACTICE SOLUTIONS
- C83 TOPICS: Tuesday May 21, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); WHEN SEPSIS GOES VIRAL: RECONSIDERING SEPSIS IN THE POST-COVID ERA
- C89 SYMP: Tuesday May 21, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); HIV-RELATED LUNG DISEASE: UPDATES IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY, CLINICAL TRIALS, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS
- C92 SYMP: Tuesday May 21, 2024 (2:15-3:45 PM); SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE, AND SLEEP MEDICINE
- D83 TOPICS: Wednesday May 22, 2024 (11:00 AM-12:30 PM); RESPIRATORY HEALTH IMPACTS OF HUMAN MADE DISASTERS AND NATURAL DISASTERS, WILDFIRES, EARTHQUAKES, AND VOLCANOES
- D84 CCT: Wednesday May 22, 2024 (11:00 AM-12:30 PM); EMERGENT RESISTANCE TO NEW DRUGS FOR MDR-TB TREATMENT

There will be a symposia highlighted at the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) this year. Be sure to check them out.

PI-TB received 491 abstract submissions for review, and we are very grateful to the members of the program committee who scored them and provided valuable comments and suggestions. These included 256 scientific abstracts and 235 case reports spanning over various topics of infectious diseases. As a result, we were able to program four mini-symposia (mentioned above), six poster discussions (including one RAPiD fire poster), and nine thematic poster sessions covering a variety of studies across all areas of pulmonary infections.

Mini-Symposia:

- A16: Sunday, May 19, 2024 (9:15 AM – 11:15 AM); NTM WITH A SIDE OF BRONCHIECTASIS
- B96: Monday, May 20, 2024 (2:15 PM – 4:15 PM); WHAT IS NEW IN PNEUMONIA?
- C18: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 (9:15 AM – 11:15 AM); TRANSLATING SCIENCE IN RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS
- D17: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 (8:15 AM – 10:15 AM); WHAT IS HOT IN TUBERCULOSIS

Poster Discussion:

- A107: Sunday, May 19, 2024 (2:15 PM – 4:15 PM); INFECTIONS IN THE IMMUNOSUPPRESSED AND IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST
- B26: Monday, May 20, (9:15 AM – 11:15 AM); UNLOCKING NTM/BRONCHIECTASIS MYSTERIES
- B106: Monday, May 20, 2024 (2:15 PM – 4:15 PM); TUBERCULOSIS BREAKTHROUGHS
- C107: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 (2:15 PM – 4:15 PM); MICROBIAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS DISCOVERIES
- D107: Wednesday May 22, 2024 (11:00 AM-1:00 PM) THE BEST OF RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS CASE REPORTS

RAPiD FIRE Poster Discussion:

- C27: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 (9:15 AM – 11:15 AM); NTM/BRONCHIECTASIS RAPiD FIRE POSTERS

Thematic Posters:

- A64: Sunday, May 19, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); TACKLING TUBERCULOSIS: INSIGHTS AND INNOVATIONS
- A65: Sunday, May 19, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); FUNGI CHRONICLES
- A66: Sunday, May 19, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); BACTERIA CASES UNLEASHED
- B66: Monday, May 20, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); DYNAMIC CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
- B67: Monday, May 20, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); VIRAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS INSIGHTS
- B68: Monday, May 20, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); TUBERCULOSIS TALES: CASES UNVEILED
- C67: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); SCIENCE AND BEDSIDE BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA
- C68: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); NTM: CHALLENGING SCIENCE AND CASES
- C69: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 (9:00-4:15 PM); FUNGAL INFECTION CHALLENGES

As a committee, we can only program sessions that are submitted by our assembly membership. We would encourage you to start networking and thinking about what you want to see at ATS 2025. The number of allowed sessions is proportionate to the assembly membership and the number of submitted abstracts.

We would like to thank the members of the PI-TB Program Committee for their hard work over the year.

Marcos I. Restrepo, MD, MSc, PhD (Chair) and Pamela J. Mcshane, MD (Chair-Elect)	
Adrian Rendon, MD, PhD	Ashley Jane Losier, MD
Beth Shoshana Zha, MD, PhD	Carlos M. Luna, MD, PhD
Divya Reddy, MBBS, MPH	Emily Henkle, PhD, MPH
Chiagozie Pickens, MD, MSci	Eva Maria Carmona Porquera, MD, PhD
Francisco Sanz, MD, PhD	Georgios Kitsios, MD, PhD
James Brown, MBBS, MRCP(UK), PhD	James D Chalmers, MBChB, MD, PhD
Jane E. Gross, MD, PhD	Jerry Simbarashe Zifodya, MD, MPH
Jezreel Pantaleón García, BS, MD	Joseph Keane, MD
Joshua Malo, MD	Keira A Cohen, MD
Kelly Pennington, MD	Ken M. Kunisaki, MD, MSCR, ATSF
Keven M Robinson, MD	Laura Pulido
Martin Witzernath, MD	Monica Campo Patino
Nathan C. Dean, MD	Oleg Epelbaum, MD, ATSF
Rishi Chanderraj, MD, MSCR	Samantha M Yeligar, MS, PhD
Sara Auld, MD, MSc	Shannon H. Kasperbauer, MD
Sushma K. Cribbs, MD, MSCR, ATSF	



2023 PI-TB Abstract Travel Award Winners

**ATS 2024 International Conference
Assembly on Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PITB) Sessions**

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Time Start	Session Time End
PG8	BRONCHIECTASIS AND NTM PULMONARY DISEASE: RISK FACTORS, MANAGEMENT, AND RECENT ADVANCES	Postgraduate Course	5/18/2024	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
A16	NTM WITH A SIDE OF BRONCHIECTASIS	Mini Symposium	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
A64	TACKLING TUBERCULOSIS: INSIGHTS AND INNOVATIONS	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A65	FUNGI CHRONICLES	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A66	BACTERIA CASES UNLEASHED	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
MTE5	REVOLUTIONIZING PNEUMONIA TREATMENT: THE PROMISING ROLE OF BACTERIOPHAGES	Meet the Expert	5/19/2024	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
A107	INFECTIONS IN THE IMMUNOSUPPRESSED AND IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST	Poster Discussion Session	5/19/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A88	POST-TB LUNG DISEASE: FROM GLOBAL BURDEN TO MOLECULAR MECHANISMS	Scientific Symposium	5/19/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B10	NON-ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY FOR PNEUMONIA	Scientific Symposium	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	10:45 AM
B26	UNLOCKING NTM/BRONCHIECTASIS MYSTERIES	Poster Discussion Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B66	DYNAMIC CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B67	VIRAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS INSIGHTS	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM

B68	TUBERCULOSIS TALES: CASES UNVEILED	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B106	TUBERCULOSIS BREAKTHROUGHS	Poster Discussion Session	5/20/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B88	CUTTING EDGE VACCINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PULMONARY SUB-SPECIALTY COMMUNITY: VACCINE IMMUNOLOGY, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRACTICE SOLUTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/20/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B96	WHAT IS NEW IN PNEUMONIA?	Mini Symposium	5/20/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C18	TRANSLATING SCIENCE IN RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS	Mini Symposium	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C27	NTM/BRONCHIECTASIS RAPID FIRE POSTERS	RAPiD Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C67	SCIENCE AND BEDSIDE BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C68	NTM: CHALLENGING SCIENCE AND CASES	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C69	FUNGAL INFECTION CHALLENGES	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
MTE30	ALL YOU CAN LEARN: IMMUNIZATION FOR PATIENTS WITH RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS	Meet the Expert	5/21/2024	10:30 AM	11:30 AM
C107	MICROBIAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS DISCOVERIES	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C89	HIV-RELATED LUNG DISEASE: UPDATES IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY, CLINICAL TRIALS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
D17	WHAT'S HOT IN TUBERCULOSIS?	Mini Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	10:15 AM
D107	THE BEST OF RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS CASE REPORTS	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
D84	EMERGENT RESISTANCE TO NEW DRUGS FOR MDR-TB TREATMENT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM

ATS 2024 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Start Time	End Time
C88	HEALTH EQUITY ACROSS PEDIATRIC PULMONARY DISEASES	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C89	HIV-RELATED LUNG DISEASE: UPDATES IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY, CLINICAL TRIALS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C86	PULMONARY REHABILITATION - KEEPING THE WHEEL ROLLING FORWARD	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
D11	ON THE HORIZON: NEW, NOVEL, AND CUTTING EDGE FOR NONTUBERCULOUS MYOBACTERIA (NTM)	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D6	WHAT CAUSES SARCOIDOSIS?	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D5	TIME-LIMITED TRIALS IN CRITICAL CARE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM

D7	WHERE CHILDREN LEARN AND BREATHE: THE IMPACT OF SCHOOL-BASED EXPOSURES ON CHILDHOOD RESPIRATORY HEALTH	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D8	GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT? AN ATS/ERS JOINT SYMPOSIUM	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D9	LINKING NOVEL MULTI-OMICS WITH MACHINE LEARNING TO UNLOCK LUNG PATHOPHYSIOLOGY	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D10	TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK: MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES FOR HIGH-QUALITY LUNG CANCER SCREENING	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
CS1	CHAIR SYMPOSIUM	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D83	RESPIRATORY HEALTH IMPACTS OF HUMAN MADE DISASTERS AND NATURAL DISEASTERS, WILDFIRES, EARTHQUAKES, AND VOLCANOES.	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
D84	EMERGENT RESISTANCE TO NEW DRUGS FOR MDR-TB TREATMENT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
D85	ONE TO RULE THEM ALL? IMMUNE CELLS CONTROL STEM CELL CAPACITY IN THE LUNG	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
D86	AMBULATORY CRITICAL CARE: A BENCH TO BEDSIDE UNDERSTANDING OF CHRONIC RESPIRATORY FAILURE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM

WEB COMMITTEE

Amjad Kanj, MD, MPH (Chair) and Eva Otoupalova, MD (Co-Chair)

Over the past year, the Web Committee of the ATS PITB focused on delivering news and updates from the PITB Assembly as well as the wider ATS community, sharing information about important events, and disseminating relevant scientific publications on the PITB X platform. We are also excited about launching a quarterly newsletter aimed at providing recent updates from the PITB assembly working groups, important deadlines, and a summary of scientific advances for each quarter. Additionally, we have joined forces with other assemblies to spotlight early-career professionals, an initiative that has been highly successful. We are also working on updating the PITB Assembly Website. Lastly, we are pleased that the Web Committee membership has grown significantly, and we have had several well attended meetings throughout the year.

Dr. Eva Otoupalova (University of Virginia), current Web Committee Co-Chair, will be taking over from Dr. Amjad Kanj (Mayo Clinic) moving forward. Looking ahead, we are enthusiastic about our future online growth, particularly in terms of expanding the ATS PITB networking capabilities and enhancing its presence on social media.



Follow Us @ATS_PITB!

Be sure to follow us at @ATS_Assemblies for news on webinars, deadlines, and other things you might have missed in your inbox!

EARLY CAREER WORKING GROUP

Ashley Jane Losier, MD & Kelly Pennington, MD (Co-Chairs)

The PI-TB Early Career Working Group has a mission to engage, support and create opportunities for junior members within our assembly. Here are some of the highlights from the past year for our working group's activities.

Pulmonary Infection Network of Experts (PINE): Since its beginning in February 2021, the virtual event series known as PINE has continued with events highlighting different pulmonary infections. These webinars often feature interactive case-based formats and allow a forum for junior members to present with senior expert discussants and engage audience members through polls, journal clubs, interactive questions, and discussions at the end of each session. Sessions continue to highlight pulmonary infections including events held surrounding World Pneumonia Day and World HIV Day.

Mentoring Program: The PI-TB Mentoring Program matches junior and senior assembly members with shared professional interests. The Mentoring Program will continue this year with networking opportunities at the conference, along with ongoing virtual-hybrid opportunities. We appreciate the many volunteers for mentors who are generous with their time, advice and guidance to our assembly mentees. Application process is ongoing and available on the ATS website.

Apprenticeship Program: The Apprenticeship Program allows junior assembly members the opportunity to apprentice and observe the standing committees of PI-TB assembly. This program provides insight into the Program, Planning and Web committees. Following a successful apprentice year, the selected delegates may earn their own seat on these committees. **Apprenticeship results for 2024 include: Christina Thornton for Planning Committee apprentice, Fel Angelie Colon for Program Committee apprentice, and O'Neil Green for Web Committee apprentice.**

Teaching Competition: Since the initial teaching competition launched in 2019 with the PI-TB assembly, the teaching competition has grown to an ATS-wide assembly event. Stay tuned for this year's competition at the conference. We appreciate all the judges and education mentors who have volunteered their time and teaching expertise. Please continue to encourage any junior members interested in medical education to participate in this exciting competition.

Members: Ashley Losier (chair), Kelly Pennington (co-chair), Eva Otoupalova, Divya Reddy, Christina Thornton, Cathy Gao, Gail Stanley, Holly Keir, Layla Barkal, Shivani Singh, Masfique Mehedi, Greg Wigger, Dan Belz, Deepika Kulkarni, Sarah Voth, Maria Tupayachi-Ortiz, Neelima Navaluri, Zhenmai Zhang, Ben Wu, Bashar Staitieh and John Huston. A special thanks to recent members who have rotated off the early career working group including Katie Hisert and Sara Auld.

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.

Marriott Marquis

Vista, Level 1, South

Sunday, May 19th – Monday, May 20 from 6 am to 6 pm

Please note, this space is exclusively for Mentoring Program participants

ATS Contact- Tiana Lino at tlino@thoracic.org

PHD AND BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENTIST WORKING GROUP REPORT

Lindsay McDonald, PhD and James D. Londino, PhD (RCMB), Shivani Singh, MD, PhD and Amali Samarasinghe, PhD (PI-TB Assembly Representatives)

The Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group (PBTS WG) has been in existence since January 1, 2019 and is charged with enhancing the value of ATS membership for basic and translational scientists, specifically Ph.D. scientists. The PBTS WG consists of thirty-seven members that are drawn from each of the fourteen ATS Assemblies. The WG meets monthly via Zoom to discuss issues of importance to (1) non-clinical ATS members (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) and (2) research-intensive physician-scientists. The current co-chairs of the PBTS WG are Drs. Lindsay McDonald and James Londino (Assembly on RCMB). Despite consisting of members from all fourteen ATS Assemblies, the Assembly on RSF is the administrative home for the PBTS WG, and we are very thankful to the Assembly on RSF for their strong and continuing support of our efforts.

During the past year, the PBTS WG has been extraordinarily active in developing programs for its constituency as well as devising strategies to recruit Ph.D. scientists to the Society. We have highlighted some of the WG's efforts in the subsequent text.

Equity and ATS Opportunities Under the co-leadership of Carolyn Cannon, M.D., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB) and Jarrod Barnes, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC), among several focuses, the Equity and ATS Opportunities subcommittee is working on emphasizing a parity in the fee structure for Ph.D. scientists at the conference. This subcommittee has also worked with the ATS Health Equity and Diversity Committee to help promote diversity. With guidance from this subcommittee, the PBTS co-chairs, and other PhD representatives within the ATS, met with the ATS leadership and were successful in promoting PhD involvement through the inclusion of more basic science focused seminar series; and reduction of the conference fee for PhD's and postdoctoral fellows this year by 30%.

Seminar Under the leadership of Jarrod Barnes, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) and Kelly Potter, Ph.D., RN (Assembly on NUR) the Seminar Subcommittee has the goal of highlighting Ph.D. scientists and innovative methods/techniques in a seminar format. The planned structure is for 2-3 seminars per year with the co-sponsorship of assemblies within the ATS is a discussion of the research, preferably by a Ph.D. early career scientist, followed by discussion. This group held a seminar the inaugural seminar "Identification of Lung Innervating Sensory Neurons and Their Target Specificity" last Spring. In addition, in conjunction with the RSF web committee, the group, co-sponsored a workshop entitled "Building Career Paths for Ph.D., Basic, and Translational Scientists in Clinical Departments in the U.S." based on the assembly project "Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities and ATS Membership" and the recently published manuscript on the topic by Dr. Beth Moore.

Survey To understand the rationale as to why Ph.D. scientists attend the ATS International Conference but do not join ATS as members, Janette Burgess, Ph.D., ATSF (Assembly on RSF) assembled a subcommittee of PBTS WG members to answer this question. This survey was distributed to all 2023 ATS International Conference attendees who hold a Ph.D. or equivalent and spend 50% or more of their time in research yet are not currently ATS members. The data demonstrated that the cost of the conference and membership was the prime concern for researchers attending the conference. In addition, the survey showed that PhD specific resources within the ATS were appreciated by the attendees and were an important driver of membership. This survey will be resubmitted for the 2024 conference to ascertain whether the new fee structure alleviates these concerns and to identify additional concerns of Ph.D. members of the ATS.

Research Integrity There is a need for formally recognized research integrity training for basic science and translational researchers as scientific organizations increasingly require training be specified in grant applications and for fellowships. The Research Integrity subcommittee, headed by Thomas Mariani, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB), was formed with the goal of promoting ATS as a recognized leader among professional societies in promoting the basic principles of Research Integrity through education, information dissemination and collaboration and to make integrity a part of all ATS members' research practices, procedures, and processes.

PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Collaboration Events Brian Cade Ph.D. (Assembly on SRN) currently serves as the PBTS liaison with the SIC. The PBTS WG/SIC hopes to provide more Ph.D.-centric events in the upcoming year and to help facilitate programming for the SIC. In addition, the PBTS working group will be co-hosting the Science and Innovation Center Ph.D. Reception at the 2024 ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA.

Awards A PBTS WG Awards subcommittee is chaired by Karen Ridge, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The purpose of this subcommittee is to identify and nominate worthy basic and translational scientists (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) for the annual

Assembly- and ATS-wide awards. This subcommittee is available to aid the RSF membership on the submission of material for the nomination of PhD and basic science candidates for ATS-wide awards.

Symposium Increasing the number of PhD specific research symposiums at the conference is a priority for the PBTS working group. This year the group successfully programmed a seminar "MECHANICAL FORCES IN LUNG DISEASE" which was co-sponsored by the RSF assembly. This subcommittee is currently looking to program research focused symposium for the 2025 conference. Please contact the PBTS working group with suggestions and help is available to the RSF membership to facilitate the programming of basic science topics.

Finally, if you would like to become involved with the PBTS WG or have any issues you feel that WG could effectively address, please feel free to e-mail either Lindsay McDonald (Lindsay.McDonald3@va.gov) or James Londino (james.londino@osumc.edu).

Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers

**Sunday, May 19th from 3 - 5 p.m.
San Diego Convention Center
Sails Pavilion Terrace (Upper Level)**

The ATS Science and Innovation Center (SIC) working group and the PhD working group, would like to invite PhDs and other Basic Science Researchers to a special reception event. The reception will provide an intimate setting for networking while also allowing guests to mingle. Cocktails will be provided.

Register Here: <https://conference.thoracic.org/program/events/reception-phd-other-basic-science-researchers.php>

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION CENTER WORKING GROUP

Anukul Shenoy, PhD & Chiagozie Pickens, MD (Co- Chairs)

We are excited to be participating in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) as chairs on behalf of PITB this year. The SIC remains the central venue for basic and translational scientists to network and learn about emerging technologies. The SIC program has significant updates. We continue to work closely with the Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF), Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation (All), and Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB) Assemblies.

1. The SIC is now part of "The [Networking Super Center](#)" which includes the SIC among many others, and is housed under the International Conference Committee. "[The Networking Super Center](#)" will be a shared space where organization and presentation space is shared among all centers to that encourage networking, and collaborations on topics. We were informed that there would be plenty of space and time for all the programming to be available.
2. The SIC Schedule is now officially programmed into the American Thoracic Society International Conference app. Previous years it was difficult to find and schedule around presentations at the SIC. This will no longer be a problem as early programming allowed for the incorporation of the SIC into the schedule/app. Attendees can now schedule/book times into their day.
3. This year the PI-TB is sponsoring one session at the SIC : 1) **Infection and vaccination: The changing landscapes of respiratory viruses** led by Dr. Charles Dela Cruz (Sunday, May 19, 2024 @ 10-11AM). Please come to support PI-TB colleagues and basic and translational scientists.

VACCINE WORKING GROUP

Justin R. Ortiz, MD, MS (Chair)

In 2021, a PI-TB Vaccines and Immunization Working Group was initiated with a goal to promote and raise the profile of vaccines and immunization through identification of unmet needs, education, research, advocacy, health equity, and interaction with policy developers. In 2023, the Working Group completed its two-year planned duration and was sunsetted. The ATS focus on vaccination has not ended however, as a different ATS Working Group was formed in late 2021 to participate in a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded cooperative agreement with the Council of Medical Specialty Societies and other professional societies on a US vaccination quality improvement project.

ATS Vaccine Initiative

ATS is one of seven specialty societies to be awarded a grant (Specialty Societies Advancing Adult Immunization - SSAAI) from the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) and CDC to increase COVID-19, influenza, and routine vaccination rates among high-risk adult patients nationally. Specifically, ATS is focusing on high-risk adult patients with respiratory conditions. ATS is partnering with and funding 8 health care systems across the United States over the course of the award to test and implement strategies to improve vaccine uptake using a Quality Improvement approach.

The awarded ATS partner health systems are:

- Grady Health
- Meharry Medical College
- University of Arizona/Banner Health
- University of California San Francisco/San Francisco Health Network
- University of Colorado
- St. Luke's Health System
- Wayne Health
- West Virginia University Hospitals Inc.

As part of this initiative, ATS will also:

- Identify member QI champions to promote immunization improvement in respiratory health and serve as advocates to the ATS community, supporting other health systems in their efforts to increase vaccine coverage.
- Develop new or update existing content for our vaccine-related patient fact sheets.
- Review and update ATS immunization policy statements, clinical guidance, and member and patient educational materials and share those with the broader membership.

More information about the ATS Initiative can be found here: <https://www.thoracic.org/vaccine-resource-center/specialty-societies-advancing-adult-immunization-ssai.php#:~:text=ATS%20is%20one%20of%20seven,high%2Drisk%20adult%20respiratory%20patients.>

PNEUMONIA WORKING GROUP

Scott E. Evans, MD, ATSF & Charles Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF (Co-Chairs)

The PI-TB Working Group on Acute Pneumonia was established in 2015. The multidisciplinary panel represents domestic and international ATS members, including early career members, who are interested in topics related to the pathogenesis, diagnosis and management of acute pneumonia, as well as structural means to reduce patient risks for acute pneumonia. Due to the success of the working group in promoting and producing clinical practice guidelines and workshops that bring together thought leaders in pneumonia, this group has now been transitioned into a standing Advisory Group that does not require routine renewal to avoid sunseting.

There are several active assembly projects related to work from the Acute Pneumonia advisory group. The first ever workshop on Immunocompromised Host Pneumonia was completed in 2022 and was published since the last ATS meeting. Workshops on Experimental Models of Acute Respiratory Infections and Post-infectious pulmonary complications were completed in 2023 and their associated reports are nearing completion. The updated clinical practice guideline on the Diagnosis and Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia is underway. Plus, we are always open to new ideas from the ATS community for additional pneumonia-related projects to support.

This PITB Acute Pneumonia Advisory 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 current goals of the working group following the latest renewal are:

- 1) To improve understanding of pneumonia in the immunocompromised host;
- 2) To enhance awareness of pneumonia and pneumonia complications by establishing connection with ATS communications/marketing, ATS patient education unit and ATS patient organization (PAR);
- 3) To develop a policy brief on pneumonia (including antibiotic resistance) for internal and external advocacy purposes;
- 4) To enhance opportunities for early career investigators to address acute pneumonia as their research focus and, secondarily, to encourage researchers to find a home in PITB.

The working group continues to update the [Top 20 fact sheet on pneumonia](#). 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 Just Actions and Save the Children to enhance pneumonia advocacy efforts. Our group has participated in the initiatives of the Pneumo-Strategy, an international nonprofit group of experts focused on the knowledge and experience of countries most affected with pneumonia. The working group also works with the NHLBI and NIAID on research priorities and strategy related pneumonia.

This year, we have organized two ATS webinar collaboration with our international society partners. A Joint ATS – Philippine College of Chest Physician (PCCP) Webinar on Lung Infection (March 14, 2024) - Preventive or adjunctive strategies in the management of mechanically ventilated patients with Severe Community Acquired Pneumonia. A joint ATS- Asociación Latinoamericana de Tórax (ALAT) focused on "How to deal with MDR organisms in limited resources settings (March 28, 2024).