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Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

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IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Assembly Chair.....1
Planning Committee Report1-2
Program Committee Report.....3
Early Career Professionals Working Group Report.....3
Web Committee Report.....3
International Relations Advisory Report.4
Nominating Committee Report.....4
Section in Genetics and Genomics Report.....4
Science and Innovation Core.....4
Science Core IC Project.....4
Patient Fact Sheets.....5
Upcoming Webinars.....5
2019 Assembly Challenge Award.....6
ATS Research Program.....6-7
ATS Giving Opportunities.....7

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

It has been an extremely busy spring with planning and programming the upcoming ATS meeting in Philadelphia but unfortunately due to COVID-19 the 2020 ATS meeting is canceled. We know many members of the assembly are on the frontlines of this pandemic. Thus, we have include resources and links below so members can follow news related to the pandemic.

COVID-19 Resources:

- **Database of articles:** <https://www.statnews.com/2020/03/16/database-launched-to-spur-ai-tools-to-fight-coronavirus/>
- **Prevention:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>
- **What To Do if You Are Sick:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>
- **World-wide COVID-19 cases:** <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries>
- **ATS Resources on COVID-19:** <https://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/disease-related-resources/novel-coronavirus.php>



Assembly Chair: Jay K. Kolls, MD

All Raised The Most Money for the ATS Foundation Assembly Challenge!

The AII assembly members helped raise the most money of any assembly for research funds for the ATS Foundation!

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Benjamin Suratt MD, Chair

The Planning Committee is a relatively small committee composed of 12-15 members and an apprentice.

One important task of the planning committee is reviewing and ranking ATS project proposals submitted to AII, and assisting AII members who wish or are in the process of writing a proposal. We have several ongoing projects that were approved for funding. Dr. Yvonne Huang is leading a project entitled “Microbiome, Metabolism and Immunoregulation of Asthma”. Dr. Hrishikesh Kulkarni is leading a project entitled “Update on the features and measurements of experimental acute lung injury in animals.”

I encourage members to submit new projects and keep in mind that planning committee members can be a great resource for guidance during the preparation phase of the proposal. Another task of the committee is to review and rank nominees for our assembly awards.

I encourage members to submit new projects and keep in mind that planning committee members can be a great resource for guidance during the preparation phase of the proposal. Proposals are due August 31st.

(Continued on page 2)

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

Another task of the committee is to review and rank nominees for our assembly awards.

These include the:

- Rising Star Achievement Award
- Early Career Achievement Award
- Scientific Accomplishment Award
- International Early Career Award



All Rising Star Award:

Mark Eugene Snyder, MD
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Nominated by Janet S. Lee, MD

Dr. Mark Snyder is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh who provided the first report of how human tissue resident memory T cells develop, persist, and impact tissue integrity following lung transplantation. Dr. Snyder's scientific work in human tissue resident memory T cells has broad implications beyond lung transplantation such as in host defense, host susceptibility to lung injury and immune-mediated lung diseases.



All International Early Career Award:

Dong Keon Yon, MD
Department of Pediatrics, CHA Bundang Medical Center, CHA University School of Medicine Seongnam, South Korea

Nominated by Seung Won Lee, MD

Dr. Yon's research in the field of allergy and clinical immunology focuses on allergic epidemiology, chronic inflammation, and multiple environmental factors (e.g. PM2.5/10, aeroallergens, and respiratory viruses), with a special focus on primary care and community allergy. His publications include of 20 peer-reviewed articles to date, in such top-ranked journals as AJRCCM, JACI, JACI in practice, and Allergy, and he has also served as the Associate Editor of BMC Pediatrics and BMC Pulmonary Medicine.



All Early Career Award:

Stephanie Christenson, MD MAS
University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

Nominated by Prescott Woodruff MD MPH; Michael Peters MD MAS

Dr. Christenson's work applies functional genomics and bioinformatics to investigate molecular mechanisms and disease subsets in COPD. Her innovative approach has identified the role of innate and adaptive pathways of inflammation (e.g. type 2 inflammation and interleukin-17) and alterations in the microbiome in stable COPD and COPD exacerbations which are directly relevant to targeted treatment strategies for patients.



All Scientific Accomplishment Award:

Sally Wenzel, MD
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA

Nominated by Alison Morris, MD, MS; John Alcorn PhD; Mark Gladwin, MD

Dr. Wenzel's remarkable research contributions over the years have significantly improved our understanding of asthma pathogenesis and directly impacted approach to treatment. Dr. Wenzel has developed an unparalleled translational program to study asthma's pathobiology and mechanisms and is one of the key scientists who established the concept of asthma phenotypes.

For more information on the Planning Committee, or if you want to join us, please contact Ben Suratt at bsuratt1@gmail.com.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Angela Rogers, MPH, MD, Chair, Fernando Holguin, MD, Chair-Elect.

ATS Leadership is working on the 2020 virtual program and we will update the AII website as soon as this is finalized.

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Rachel Scheraga MD, Chair

The Early Career Working Group is one of the most active within the AII assembly. Our group oversees career development programming, mentoring programs, apprenticeship programs and podcasts and journal clubs of interest to trainees and junior faculty. Here are some updates on what we have been doing:

- 2 journal clubs so far in 2020 (look for them on the web here if you missed them: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/aai/journal-club/>)
- Mentor mentee program: The deadline was extended to March 20th for sign up. This is a great opportunity for junior members to get help navigating the international conference and networking with other faculty and colleagues to help with career development in the future. See: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/aai/mentoring-program/>
- Podcasts have been really successful! We programmed 4 for 2019 and 1 for 2020. They include setting up a lab, ATS beyond the annual meeting, and a clinical approach to allergy testing. If you missed any of these and want to hear them, check out: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/aai/podcasts.php>
- We just completed our second of our apprenticeship program. This is an opportunity for junior members to volunteer to serve on the Planning or Program Committees to learn how the processes work. We had a very successful year and just selected the new apprentices for 2020-2021. Watch this space for future applications: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/aai/apprenticeship-program/>

If you want to learn more about the Early Career Working Group, please contact Rachel Scheraga at scherar@ccf.org. The committee has created a new feature for social media called "30-second summary". This is a short slideshow quoting a recent paper and highlighting the main hypothesis and main findings. The goal is to have a weekly featured paper. Related to this the committee is seeking a fellow or early-career member interested in helping with this feature. Anyone interested can send their contact information to Dr. Gomez-Villalobos at jose.gomez-villalobos@yale.edu.

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Jose Gomez - Villalobos, MS, MD, ATSF , Web Director

The committee has created a new feature for social media called "30-second summary". This is a short slideshow quoting a recent paper and highlighting the main hypothesis and main findings. The goal is to have a weekly featured paper. Related to this the committee is seeking a fellow or early-career member interested in helping with this feature. Anyone interested can send their contact information to Dr. Gomez-Villalobos at jose.gomez-villalobos@yale.edu

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Njira Lugogo , MD, Chair Professor Ross Vlahos, Co-Chair

Our group is broadly interested in hearing from international members about ways the AII assembly can be most beneficial. One important aspect of our work is to provide an opportunity to mix and mingle among international attendees at the conference, but we also seek to nominate international members as facilitators and chairs for the ATS programming events. If interested in getting more involved, please contact nlugogo@med.umich.edu

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Beth Moore, PhD, Chair

The nominating committee this year consisted of Bethany Moore as Chair and Sally Wenzel and Janet Lee. Our committee is responsible for identifying individuals to run for election for key assembly positions including Assembly Chair, Program Chair and the Nominating Committee. We are extremely grateful to the slate of candidates who stood for election for 2020. Special thanks to Anne Sperling and Marc Peters-Golden who ran for Assembly Chair, to Sanjay Chotirmall, Lee Quinton and Yvonne Huang who ran for Nominating Committee and to Mike Fessler and Blanca Himes who stood for election to the Program Committee. These are all important positions with the assembly that help us do the work needed to advocate for our science and clinical interests. While all of the votes were very close, and separated by just a handful of votes in all cases, we are pleased to announce that followings results.

- Assembly Chair Elect for 2021 will be Dr. Anne Sperling
- Program Committee Chair Elect for 2021 will be Dr. Blanca Himes
- Nominating Committee Members for 2021 will be Drs. Lee Quinton and Yvonne Huang

Congratulations to the elected winners. We look forward to working with each of you.

SECTION ON GENETICS AND GENOMICS REPORT

Anthony Gerber, MD, PhD, Chair, Victor Ortega, MD, PhD, ATSF, Co-Chair

Members of the Section on Genetics and Genomics (SGG) span most of the ATS assemblies and include scientists with MDs, PhDs, MD-PhDs, and other degrees. Some of our members practice medicine, while others devote all of their time to research and/or teaching. Our research interests are broad in terms of diseases and processes related to pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. What we share in common is that our approaches to study these diseases and processes involves omics techniques such as:

- genetics
- genomics
- epigenomics
- metabolomics
- proteomics
- integrative analyses

Our goals in using these techniques are to better understand functional mechanisms underlying pulmonary disease processes, and to achieve precision medicine in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine.

The section host frequent journal clubs that can be found:

<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/sections/gg/journal-club/>

- Our website has some great profiles of featured researchers: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/sections/gg/featured-researchers/>

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION CORE

John F. Alcorn, PhD, Chair and Stephanie Christenson, MD, MS, Co-Chair

The SIC team is looking to what content can be put in online in lieu of ATS 2020 being canceled.

SCIENCE CORE IC PROJECT

Bruce D. Levy, MD and Wonder Puryear Drake, MD, Co-Chairs

The Science Core them for 2020 will be Sex Differences in Lung Diseases will be the Science Core Topic for 2021. We encourage all AII members to submit program content in this area for 2021!

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2021!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2021. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/about/project-application.php> on August 1st with a deadline of August 31st. 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, Benjamin T. Suratt, MD at bsuratt1@gmail.com

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

Free Patient Fact Sheets!

The ATS Patient Information Series contains over 150 high quality, patient-friendly fact sheets on topics such as COPD, PFTs, OSA, and special topics such as COVID-19. These fact sheets are free and accessible from the ATS Website at www.thoracic.org/patients. If you would like to serve as an author, reviewer, or have topic suggestions, contact Judy Corn, ATS Staff, at jcorn@thoracic.org

Upcoming Science and Innovation Webinars

Register Now: <https://thoracic.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlcumvpjorEtGoPuuksKJS6dr93F1znO0J>

Topic: Improving the Quality and Reproducibility of Flow Cytometry in the Lung

When: Wednesday, June 24, 12 p.m. ET

For: PhDs, MDs, Nurses, Early Career Professionals

Moderator: Anne Sperling, PhD, ATSF (University of Chicago) and John Alcorn, PhD (Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh)

Discussants:

- Elizabeth Redente, PhD (National Jewish Health)
- Benjamin Singer, MD, ATSF (Northwestern University)
- Robert M. Tighe, MD (Duke University)

Register now: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8664255388339304719>

Topic: Beyond Alum and Capsular Polysaccharides

When: Tuesday, Jun 30, 2020 5:00 p.m. ET

For: PhDs, MDs, Nurses, Early Career Professionals

Moderator: Alexa Pragman, MD, PhD (Minneapolis VA Medical Center)

Discussants:

- Elizabeth Norton, PhD (Tulane School of Medicine)
- Jay Kolls, MD, ATSF (Tulane School of Medicine)

ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

Thank you for participating in the [2019 ATS Assembly Challenge](#)!

The annual challenge taps into the grassroots community — and competitive spirit — of the ATS assemblies in support of the ATS Foundation.

The results are: the Assembly on **Allergy Immunology & Inflammation** raised the most dollars with \$69,188; **Nursing** had the highest member participation with 20.34 percent; **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology** had the highest number of first-time givers in December with 22 new donors.



Melanie Koenigshoff, MD, PhD, ATSF, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, receives RCMB's 2019 ATS Assembly Challenge award from James Beck, MD, ATSF, ATS President

Many members made gifts supporting the [Research Program](#) and other core programs in the final days of 2019. There was tremendous energy around the Challenge this year, with assembly chairs crafting special messages to their members. Most chairs sent two or more personal emails to their members during the Challenge.

Congratulations to the Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, Nursing, and Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology assemblies! They will receive special recognition in ATS communications, at ATS 2020, and within their own assemblies.

The ATS would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their outreach and generosity during the Challenge. You provided a big boost to our year-end giving campaigns—and a boost to our upcoming grant-making capacity for talented investigators. Thank you for your enthusiastic support!

Truly, your energy, creativity, and participation were outstanding. Thank you for everything you do for the ATS, young investigators, patients, and respiratory health worldwide.

To learn more about the ATS Research Program or to make a gift, visit research.thoracic.org.



Linda L. Chlan, PhD, RN, ATSF, chair for the Assembly on Nursing, receives Nursing's 2019 ATS Assembly Challenge award from James Beck, MD, ATSF, ATS President



Jay K. Kolls, MD, chair for the Assembly on Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, receives All's 2019 ATS Assembly Challenge award from James Beck, MD, ATSF, ATS President



ATS 2020 | VIRTUAL IS AUGUST 5-10

American Thoracic Society

ATS Research Program

Spread the word: Apply for a Research Grant

- Last year, ATS awarded 25 grants totaling over \$1.2 million
- Annual Grant Portfolio opens June 1st
 - Letter of Intent Deadline August 25th
 - Full Application Deadline December 1st

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ATS Giving Opportunities

Make a gift today!

- **Research Program:** provides lifeline funding for young investigators pursuing promising cures and treatments for lung-disease patients
- **MECOR:** improving global health through research and education
- **Ziskind Clinical Research Scholar Awards:** recognizing outstanding clinical researchers
- **Assembly Awards & Scholarships:** supporting ATS assembly awards and scholarships
- **Assembly Programs:** supporting ATS Assembly programmatic activities
- **Medical Education Research:** fueling novel educational approaches for training medical residents, fellows, and junior faculty
- **Philip Hopewell Prize for Global Respiratory Health Research:** recognizing early-career investigators from developing countries for their published research in a peer-reviewed journal

Reminder: The ATS Foundation dissolved in February, 2020. All Foundation programs are now part of the ATS



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