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# Microbiology, Tuberculosis and Pulmonary Infections

Editor: Kevin P. Fennelly, MD, MPH

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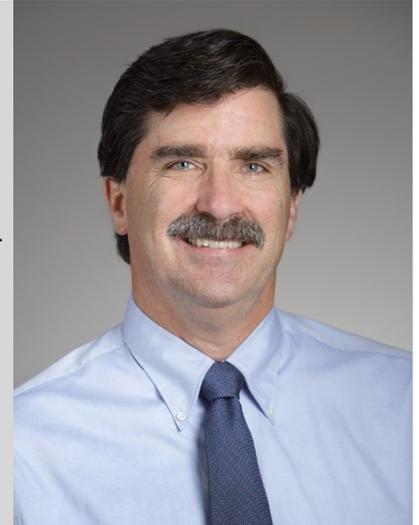
Website: <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/mtpi/index.php>  
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## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

I would like to first welcome all the new members who have joined us in the past year or are just joining us at the 2017 International Conference. Our assembly is among the most active within the ATS, and there are plenty of opportunities for new members to get involved. Our assembly offers you the ability to network and to receive mentorship from wonderful colleagues who are internationally recognized experts in lung infections and host immunity. In 2016, we were the most productive assembly in the ATS, producing 4 guideline statements and 6 documents. I extend our collective thanks to all of you who worked so hard on these projects that serve to guide excellent care of patients around the world. We have benefited from outstanding leadership and very active members on our Program, Planning, Nominating and Web committees, as well as in our Working Groups which include the Early Career Professionals, Acute Pneumonia, and International Relations. Assembly members have also served on 18 ATS-wide committees.



Kevin P. Fennelly, MD, MPH

As is typical of our assembly's dynamic and vocal nature, at last year's meeting Rich Wunderink, my predecessor as Assembly Chair, boldly and courageously questioned whether our assembly should undergo mitosis and form separate TB/NTM and Pulmonary Infections assemblies. Part of the rationale was that there seemed to be eroding attendance in sessions and in abstract submissions at the meeting. (Occasional differences around public policies and other issues can be found online in Rich's message from last year.)

My diagnosis of the syndrome of issues presented by Rich is that part of the problem involves our identity. It seems to be the nature of things nowadays to speak in acronyms. When I had informally polled ATS colleagues in other assemblies as to what 'MTPI' means, most did not know. During last year's meeting, several of you independently suggested to me that we simply change our assembly name to help us be more visible, especially to new members. So we held an online poll, receiving 195 responses (approximately 25% of primary members). 110 (56%) chose the name 'Pulmonary Infections and TB'. 60 (31%) chose simply 'Pulmonary Infections.' 13 other names were proposed that each received less than 5% of the votes. A very important...

*(Continued on page 2)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (continued)

...activity at our Membership Meeting this year will be to vote on whether or not to change the name of our assembly to ‘Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (TB).’ By ATS by-laws, we must vote on this in person at the business meeting. Please give this thoughtful consideration and attend the meeting to vote.

In the spirit of continuing our assembly’s success and leadership within ATS, I encourage you to start thinking now about potential projects to be submitted for next year and beyond before you attend this year’s meeting. Such planning will allow you to meet and brainstorm with colleagues face-to-face during our time in D.C. The deadline for project submissions in August always seems to arrive quickly after the meeting. Planning ahead of time during the meeting will help you avoid this time warp and to submit excellent proposals.

Most importantly, best wishes for a very productive and enjoyable meeting in D.C.! I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible, but if we do not have a chance to meet and you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me by email: [Kevin.Fennelly@nih.gov](mailto:Kevin.Fennelly@nih.gov).

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Jussi J. Saukkonen, MD, Chair, and Mark Metersky, MD, Chair-Elect

Our main objectives have been to provide a comprehensive range of scientific research, clinical information and updates to the MTPI programming for the ATS 2017 International Conference. We endeavored to not only find a balance of topics that reflected the Assembly’s interests but also strove to find content that would find universal interest and appeal. We are indebted to the many individuals and groups who collaborated to propose very strong symposia, courses, and seminars. There was very strong participation in proposals for scientific symposia and other venues this year. The Program Committee and other ATS committees voted on these proposals and on submitted abstract to establish the content for this year’s meeting.

We are deeply appreciative of the efforts of the Program Committee in reviewing the scientific and clinical submissions over the course of the year. We look forward to the International Conference providing stimulating and thought-provoking research and clinical information.

The Program Committee met at the 2016 ATS International Conference, and then conducted its work on line and through email and phone conversations. An advisory committee serves to provide input regarding programming. There were two ATS-wide International Conference Committee (ICC) planning meetings, in September and December of 2016, where Jussi Saukkonen, Chair of the Program Committee, and Mark Metersky, Chair-Elect, represented MTPI. During the September meeting, the main task was to schedule the Assembly Scientific Symposia. In addition, the Joint Assembly Scientific Symposia were voted upon and scheduled. During the December ICC meeting we programmed more than 450 submitted abstracts into symposia and poster sessions that we hope will advance the scientific and clinical activities of the Assembly membership. The nature of the programming is sufficiently interesting and cutting-edge for current members and will potentially attract new interested individuals.

With regard to scheduling, the number of slots and presentation venues are set by ATS. All Assemblies are assigned a certain number of “Wednesday slots,” i.e. they are required by ATS in order to be equitable. Keynotes, Year in Review, Workshops and Post-graduate courses are chosen by non-MTPI ATS committees.

The submitted abstracts were grouped according to Program Committee score and content into sessions that we hope will provide cutting edge research and illuminating clinical content. We have endeavored to diversify the moderators and facilitators for sessions. We also have sought to have experienced facilitators be present with junior facilitators at poster sessions. We look forward to a program packed with interesting scientific advances and clinical care updates.

We would like to acknowledge and thank each of the Program Committee members for their service, hard work in reviewing and scoring abstracts and , as well as for their input into the programming during the past year. The Committee Members for 2016-2017 are: Francesco Blasi, Eva Carmona Porquera, Adithya Cattamanchi, Kristina Crothers, Nathan Dean, Navneet Dhillon, Scott Evans, Charles Feldman, Christina Fiske , Ronald Grossman, David Horne, Joseph Keane, Janice Leung, David Lewinsohn, Philip Lo Bue, Michael Niederman, Roomi Nusrat, Max O'Donnell, Paula Peyrani, Michelle Prickett, Salman Qureshi, Ruxana Sadikot, Abdullah Sayiner, Stephan Schwander, Leopoldo Segal. Antonio Torres, Kevin Winthrop, Dan Wootton, Christina Yoon.

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

## ATS 2017 - WASHINGTON, DC SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON MICROBIOLOGY, TUBERCULOSIS AND PULMONARY INFECTIONS

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Postgraduate Courses</b>			
<b>Friday, May 19, 2017</b>			
PG6	LUNG INNATE IMMUNITY: FRONTLINES OF HOST DEFENSE	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Scientific Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
A89	SMOLDERING TB: EXPLORING THE FULL SPECTRUM OF INFECTION WITH MTB	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
B89	IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST PNEUMONIA: EXPANDING RISKS AND NOVEL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
C89	NON-CYSTIC FIBROSIS BRONCHIECTASIS AND NONTUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA INFECTION: CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND RECENT ADVANCES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</b>			
D8	THE NEXT NEXT-GENERATION: FUNCTION, MODELING AND MECHANISM AND THE LUNG MICROBIOME	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Jointly-Developed Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
A91	CATCHING FIRE: THE GLOBAL HEALTH ISSUE OF HOUSEHOLD AIR POLLUTION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
B91	IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE, SLEEP AND PEDIATRIC MEDICINE: HOW SOON IS NOW?	2:15 PM	4:15 PM

# ATS 2017 - WASHINGTON, DC

## SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON MICROBIOLOGY, TUBERCULOSIS AND PULMONARY INFECTIONS

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Jointly-Developed Symposia</b>			
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
C91	TACKLING SEVERE PNEUMONIA AND SEPSIS: WHAT IS READY FOR PRIME TIME?	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Workshop Sessions</b>			
<b>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</b>			
WS7	MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS FOR ACUTE PNEUMONIA: PRACTICAL IMPACT AND FUTURE HORIZONS	11:45 AM	1:15 PM
<b>Sunrise Seminars</b>			
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
SS113	ENDEMIC MYCOSES OF NORTH AMERICA	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
SS211	EXTENSIVELY DRUG RESISTANT TUBERCULOSIS: UPDATES IN EPIDEMIOLOGY, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</b>			
SS311	LATENT TB INFECTION: CURRENT DIAGNOSTICS AND MANAGEMENT	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Meet The Professor Seminars</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
MP411	HOW TO MANAGE PATIENTS WITH SEVERE COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
MP511	CLINICAL ADVANCES IN PLEURAL INFECTION AND IN PNEUMONIA	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
MP611	BEYOND THE NTM GUIDELINES: WHAT TO DO WHEN THE STANDARD DRUGS DON'T WORK	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
<b>Mini-Symposia</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
A95	ACUTE PNEUMONIA: CLINICAL STUDIES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
B17	MYCOBACTERIAL HOST DEFENSES	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
C15	WHEN MICROBES ATTACK: HOST-PATHOGEN INTERACTIONS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</b>			
D96	INFECTIOUSNESS AND TRANSMISSION OF TUBERCULOSIS	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
<b>Poster Discussion Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
A26	DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Poster Discussion Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
A106	HOST-PATHOGEN INTERACTIONS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
B27	HIV BENCH TO BEDSIDE: TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER PULMONARY COMPLICATIONS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
C25	NON-TUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA: FROM BENCH TO CLINIC	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C104	ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION: CLINICAL STUDIES	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</b>			
D25	UNUSUAL INFECTIONS: CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
<b>Thematic Poster Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 21, 2017</b>			
A61	TUBERCULOSIS DISEASE: HOST RESPONSE AND DIAGNOSTICS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A62	TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A63	CASE REPORTS: FUNGAL	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
<b>Monday, May 22, 2017</b>			
B61	BACTERIAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B62	NON-TUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA: CLINICAL ASPECTS AND CASES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B63	LATENT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION AND EPIDEMIOLOGY OF TUBERCULOSIS DISEASE	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B64	FUNGAL INFECTIONS AND INFECTIONS IN NON-HIV IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOSTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B65	HOST-PATHOGEN INTERACTIONS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B66	CASE REPORTS: BACTERIAL INFECTIONS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2017</b>			
C61	TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C62	CASE REPORTS: PULMONARY INFECTIONS - MISCELLANEOUS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C63	VIRAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Eric M. Mortensen, MD, MSc

The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to identify MTPI members who are willing to be candidates for leadership positions. The Nominations Committee term is a 1-year position, and elected members work directly with the Nominating Committee Chair, who is appointed by the MTPI Assembly Chair. The Nominating Committee candidates reflect interests in Mycobacterial and non-mycobacterial infections as well as international membership.

For the upcoming elections, the Nominating Committee identified candidates for the Assembly Chair Elect position, Program Chair Elect position, and Nominating Committee. To reflect the primary focus of the MTPI Assembly, the candidates are chosen to reflect primary interests in Mycobacterial infections and non-mycobacterial infections. The Nominating Committee has identified an exceptional list of candidates for this year's election. We thank the candidates for their willingness to serve! The candidates that have agreed to run for the positions are:

## **Assembly Chair Elect**

Kristina Crothers, MD  
Grant Waterer, MBBS, MBA, PhD  
Charles Feldman, MD, PhD

## **Nominating Committee- TB**

Timothy Aksamit, MD  
Philip Lobue, MD

## **Program Committee Chair Elect**

Rachel Thomson, MBBS, PhD, FRACP  
Kevin Winthrop, MD, MPH

## **Nominating Committee- Non-TB**

James Chalmers, MRCP(UK), MBChB  
Marc Lipman, MD

The results of the election will be announced at the MTPI business meeting in Washington, DC.

# WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Ritwij Kulkarni, MSc, PhD

The main objectives of MTPI web committee are to facilitate communication between various assembly stakeholders by providing various points of access and to disseminate relevant scientific information through official statements and links to news articles. In addition, over the past few years we have made significant progress in increasing member engagement by organizing webinars and online journal clubs to highlight important discoveries in the field of pulmonary infection. Going forward our goal is to further expand our digital presence via podcasts and twitter.

The MTPI website features links to our many highly cited statements and positions papers, as well as links to infection-related organizations around the globe. The website also provides assembly-specific data, including leadership contacts and assembly news. In particular, look for upcoming information regarding the ATS 2017 MTPI Symposia and ongoing updates about the many important projects the MTPI Assembly supports.

In addition to the static content posted to the website, the MTPI's efforts to provide important information related to the pathogenesis, host response, diagnosis, and management of respiratory tract infection now include live, interactive webinar and journal club series addressing novel, controversial, and timely issues. These series includes live presentations by international experts followed by interactive question and answer sessions from ATS members from all Assemblies. It is noteworthy that our webinars and journal clubs are attended by international audience spanning across time zones. The links to past webinars and journal clubs are made available on website.

To reach the MTPI website from the ATS Home ([thoracic.org](http://thoracic.org)), select the "Members" tab on the upper blue ribbon, select "Assemblies," then and select "Microbiology, Tuberculosis and Pulmonary Infections" to gain immediate access to all of the updated content.

The webinar series directors are Laura Gleeson ([gleesole@tcd.ie](mailto:gleesole@tcd.ie)), Colin Swenson ([colin.swenson@emory.edu](mailto:colin.swenson@emory.edu)) and Shanjana Awasthi ([Shanjana-Awasthi@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Shanjana-Awasthi@ouhsc.edu)) The journal club directors are Bashar Staitieh ([bashar.staitieh@emory.edu](mailto:bashar.staitieh@emory.edu)), Amali Samarasinghe ([asamaras@uthsc.edu](mailto:asamaras@uthsc.edu)) and Chad Marion ([chad.marion@yale.edu](mailto:chad.marion@yale.edu)).

# EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Sushma Cribbs, MD MSc, Co-Chair & Elly Karamooz, MD, In-Training Member, Co-Chair

The MTPI assembly executive leadership started the MTPI Early Career Professionals Working Group several years ago. The purpose of this committee is to develop and implement strategies for increasing participation and membership in the MTPI assembly, with a focus on ways to facilitate leadership opportunities among our fellows and early career faculty members. Our mission and current activities have included the following:

- Develop and implement strategies for increasing membership: We have done a great deal to increase our membership and enhance recruitment, including 1) sending emails to all MTPI abstract authors, both members and non to show them what a great group we are; 2) inviting non-members to our annual orientation prior the MTPI assembly business meeting; and 3) although previously we have had an on-site sign-up sheet for active participation of junior members in the Assembly, this year we are doing something new! We will have an **MTPI 101** session from 430pm-5pm where we will put together an infographic for all new members on what MTPI is all about, including leadership and other opportunities to get involved. We will continue to work closely with ATS and other Assemblies on developing common activities for early career professionals.
- Increase communications to improve connections even outside of the conference: MTPI has always had a spring newsletter, which you are reading now. In order to improve our connections not just at the May conference but throughout the year, our group has put out a **mini-newsletter** in the fall which details what this assembly is all about, the kinds of abstracts we accept, a sample of our previous topics in the past categorized, and how one can get involved with the mentorship program. We will continue to update the fall and spring MTPI newsletters and develop an MTPI brochure to better inform ATS members about MTPI and encourage participation and membership.
- Increase networking between early career and senior members of MTPI: Networking is a very important aspect to getting involved in MTPI and ATS. Our group has sponsored an **MTPI mentorship program** for several years. Through web-based surveys and networking at the ATS meetings, we have initiated a successful MTPI mentorship program that pairs interested fellows and early career faculty with more senior MTPI members in their areas of interest. This program has been very successful and this year in 2017 ATS, we will have new mentorship pairing where we plan for the mentee-mentor pairs to meet in Washington D.C. between the scientific sessions. Last year in San Francisco, the early career working group leadership for all the different ATS Assemblies met for the first time to discuss how we can join our efforts and improve our existing programs. We will continue to do this in Washington as well.
- Facilitate increased participation and leadership opportunities for our fellows and early career faculty members through identification of those who are interested in participating in MTPI committee activities, and through promoting leadership activities at the annual ATS international conferences: Our Committee has helped increase the visibility and full participation of our early career and new members of MTPI. We work closely with the Chair of the Assembly as well as the chairs of the various Program, Planning and Working Group Committees to increase involvement of members in MTPI activities such as becoming members of those committees or becoming poster facilitators or chairs of ATS sessions. New and early career members have volunteered their time helping with Dr. Ritwij Kulkarni's efforts in updating our MTPI website and in initiating new web activities such as **Webinars, Journal Clubs, Web Case Report series and social media**. We will continue to expand our efforts to interact and collaborate with MTPI members beyond just the May ATS conference – part of our MTPI 101 session will be to provide these opportunities to new MTPI members.

Our committee members are: Monica Campo-Patino (U Wash), Laura Frye (UPENN), Salman Qureshi (McGill), Navneet Dhillon (KUMC), Jyotika Sharma (University North Dakota), Chad Marion (Yale), Bashar Staitieh (Emory), Samantha Yelligar (Emory), Shanjana Awasthi (University of Oklahoma), Keira Cohen (Johns Hopkins), Amali Samarasinghe (U Tennessee), Colin Swenson (Emory), Richard Van Zyl Smit (University of Cape Town), Eva Carmona Porquera (Mayo), Alexa Pragman (Minneapolis), Benjamin Wu (NYU), Jennifer Honda (Colorado), Krishna Reddy (MGH), Laura Gleeson (CREST, Dublin), and Ritwij Kulkarni.

Our next MTPI Membership Working Group meeting will be held at the ATS 2017 International Conference in Washington D.C on Monday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 from 6:45-8:15 am.

If you are interesting in any of these activities or becoming involved in our working group, we welcome your participation! Please contact us at [skomaku@emory.edu](mailto:skomaku@emory.edu) and [karamooz@ohsu.edu](mailto:karamooz@ohsu.edu).

We greatly thank the assistance of Breana Portelli, Melinda Garcia, Vladimir Crevecoeur, and Miriam Rodriguez from the ATS staff for all their hard work and dedication!

# ACUTE PNEUMONIA WORKING GROUP REPORT

Richard G. Wunderink, MD & Charles S. Dela Cruz, MD PhD

**The overarching goal of this Working Group is to seek methods to enhance the voice of ATS in general and the MTPI Assembly specifically in the arena of acute pneumonia, both community- and hospital-acquired.**

Acute pneumonia has been an important focus area for MTPI in the past but the changing healthcare environment has left the ATS much less of stakeholder role than previously, particularly in light of the Presidential Executive Order addressing the issue of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections. The role of pulmonary and critical care physicians in this critical issue was not recognized in this government initiative. Both the Infectious Diseases Society of America and European professional society colleagues threaten to overshadow the ATS in this area. In addition, EU and European national funding for acute pneumonia research is significantly greater than the US, suggesting a lack of prioritization by funding agencies.

Objectives of this working group include the following:

- Increase the public awareness of the importance of bacterial pneumonia, both in the US and around the world.
- Develop a policy brief on Antibiotic Resistant Pneumonia for internal and external advocacy purposes
- Determine methods to increase early career investigators to address acute pneumonia as their research focus and, secondarily, encourage basic researchers to find a home in MTPI
- Address and submit proposals to the MTPI Planning Committee regarding acute pneumonia topics

In this past year, the Working Group initiated a Top 20 fact sheet on pneumonia for World Pneumonia Day (November 12, 2016). For this, please refer to <http://www.thoracic.org/patients/patient-resources/resources/top-pneumonia-facts.pdf>. These facts were made into single panel infographics and were 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. The Working Group also worked on providing an ATS response to the FDA highlighting the importance of new biomarker identifications for clinical studies on community acquired pneumonias.

The Working Group also continued working on an ATS Board supported workshop initiatives on antibiotics stewardship in the ICU that was co-sponsored by Center of Disease Control and Prevention. Report from this meeting is currently being prepared. We successfully working on an initiative to have an NIH/NHLBI working group to focus on research priorities and strategy on Advancing Pneumonia Research in Heart, Lung, and Blood Diseases which will be held Aug 21-22, 2017 at the NIH.

We would like to thank the following group members: Grant Waterer, Jean Chastre, Cristina Vasquez Guillamet, Erika Lease, John Devincenzo, Joseph Mizgerd, Marcos Restrepo, Mark Metersky, Michael Niederman, Roomi Nusrat, Antoni Torres and Scott Evans.

***Assembly on  
Microbiology, Tuberculosis and  
Pulmonary Infections  
Membership Meeting***

***Monday, May 22nd  
5:00pm-7:00pm  
Grand Hyatt Washington  
Declaration A-B***

***Assembly on  
Microbiology, Tuberculosis and  
Pulmonary Infections  
Reception***

***Monday, May 22nd  
7:00pm-10:00pm  
Grand Hyatt Washington  
Penn Quarter A-B***

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!



## Meet Your Mentor HERE!



Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2017 ATS International Conference in Washington, DC, 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 in the Renaissance, Washington DC Hotel in the Carnegie room on the (Ballroom Level). The room will be available from:

Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> between 7AM. to 7PM

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

**We hope you can join us at the Assembly Mentoring Program's Meeting spot!**

Interested in joining a mentoring program? Visit our Assemblies homepage and click on ATS Mentoring Program to learn more or contact Melinda Garcia at [mgarcia@thoracic.org](mailto:mgarcia@thoracic.org)

## Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2018!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2018. 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 Grant W. Waterer, MBBS, MBA, PhD at [grant.waterer@uwa.edu.au](mailto:grant.waterer@uwa.edu.au).

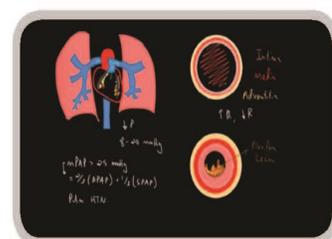
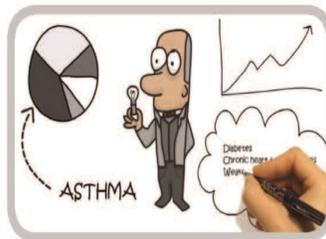
For questions regarding submissions please contact Miriam Rodriguez at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:mrodriguez@thoracic.org).

## Best of ATS Video Lecture Series (BAVLS)

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

For more information, please visit

<http://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/video-lecture-series/>



## PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS

### Networking Exchange For Early Career Professionals

Saturday, May 20, 2017; 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Marriott Marquis • Washington D.C. University of DC/Catholic University (Level M1)

Free to all conference attendees

### Attend a Workshop in the Center for Career (CCD)

Sunday, May 21 – Tuesday, May 23, 2017; 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Walter E. Washington Convention Center Hall D, (Middle Building, Level 2)

**VISIT THE CCD TO PICK UP A ROAD MAP TODAY!**



Washington, DC  
May 19-May 24  
[conference.thoracic.org](http://conference.thoracic.org)

## ANNOUNCING ATS FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM 2017-2018 GRANT CYCLE

The Research Program is excited to announce that it is now accepting letters of intent! In 2017, the Research Program has increased the number of available Unrestricted Grants for early career investigators. In addition to 15 Unrestricted Grants, the portfolio offers grants with Alpha-1 Foundation, American Lung Association of the Mountain Pacific, Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network, ResMed, PCD Foundation, Pulmonary Hypertension Association, and the ATS Foundation Tobacco-Dependence Research Fund, and 4 MECOR Awards. The deadline for letters of intent is June 6, 2017.

For more information on the current opportunities, please visit [thoracic.org/go/researchgrants](http://thoracic.org/go/researchgrants).

# SCIENCE & INNOVATION CENTER

**Sunday, May 21 – Tuesday, May 23 • 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 24 • 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Walter E. Washington Convention Center,  
Hall D (Middle Building, Level 2)**

The Science & Innovation Center is a forum for scientists and researchers to meet, network, learn, and rest. The Science & Innovation Center is organized by representatives of the All, MTPI, RCMB, and RSF Assemblies.

## DAILY

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

## SIC 101 SERIES

Interested in a scientific symposium, but need to brush up on the basics before venturing out to the cutting edge? Stop by for the SIC 101 series, where you can learn the basic principles underpinning high profile symposia at ATS 2017 Washington, DC.

### Sunday, May 21

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

#### Genomics

Blanca Himes, PhD  
University of Pennsylvania

11:15 a.m. – Noon

#### E. Cigarettes and Effects of Lung Immunology

Laura Crotty Alexander, MD  
University of California,  
San Diego

### Monday, May 22

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

#### Ex Vivo 3D Lung Tissues

Melanie Königshoff, MD, PhD  
University of Colorado, Denver

11:15 a.m. – Noon

#### RNA Seq/Single Cell RNA Seq

Max Seibold, PhD  
National Jewish Health

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Sunday, May 21, and Monday, May 22

1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

#### Rising Stars of Research

Join the All, MTPI, RCMB, and RSF assemblies in celebrating their Rising Stars. Rising Stars are basic and translational science researchers at the assistant professor or early associate professor level making waves in their fields. Each Rising Star will give a 15 minute presentation on their work with time for Q&A at the end of the session.

### Tuesday, May 23

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

#### Early Career Professionals Coffee Corner

Mentors and mentees are welcome to talk, collaborate, and caffeinate.

11:15 a.m. – Noon

#### Complementing NIH Funding: Philanthropic Organizations

Katherine L. Tuggle, PhD

Learn how to seek funding from a wider range of sources. Meet representatives from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

#### SIC Abstract Awards

Join us to celebrate the best scientific abstracts submitted to ATS 2017 Washington, DC by early career professionals.

## ATS Membership Matters



Tell us!

As an ATS Assembly member your experience is central to inspiring others to join or renew their membership. **Tell us why ATS membership matters to you! What is its value to you?**

Send a sentence or two, or even a punchy quote, to [MemberValue@Thoracic.org](mailto:MemberValue@Thoracic.org). We appreciate hearing from you within three weeks of the date of this newsletter. Be sure to provide your name, the name of your institution, city and state/country. We may use your quote in a future membership promotion!

## Did you know that as an ATS member you:

- Receive a discount of **20%** (average) on education products at the ATS Store?
- Benefit from **FREE** ABIM and ABP MOC self-assessment products?
- Have access to **NEW member benefits** that include:
  - Significant discounts on Springer respiratory books (print copies), and FREE online access to this book series,
  - Copies of our new ATS pocket guidelines.

**Save \$1,200** – or more – per year on ATS products and services over nonmember rates.

See why [members love the ATS!](#)

## Assembly Members: Help Us to Help You!

Have you:

- ◇ Moved?
- ◇ Changed your title?
- ◇ Added a new specialty, credential or other information?
- ◇ Or perhaps we just do not have a complete profile for you!

Please take a minute to update your contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile today. And now you can also upload your PHOTO to your member profile!

Log in: <https://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php>

By keeping your profile current, you help us provide programs and services that are most targeted to you.

## ATS 2017 Exhibitors Doing Fundraisers for ATS Foundation

### **Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc. in Booth 525**

Actelion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. will donate \$25 for each attendee who takes part in their “Join the Conversation” digital graffiti activity. They have pledged a maximum donation of \$25,000.

### **AstraZeneca in Booth 637**

AstraZeneca will donate \$5 for each attendee who completes their activity. They have pledged a maximum donation of \$7,500.

### **Vitalograph, Inc. in Booth 1630**

Vitalograph, Inc. will donate \$1 for each attendee who completes their respiratory quiz. They have pledged a maximum donation of \$100



### **ATS BEAR Cage**

*(Building Education to Advance Research)*

**Sunday, May 21, 2017**

**2pm – 4pm**

**Center for Career Development**

**Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Hall D, (Middle Building, Level 2)**

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the 3rd Annual BEAR Cage (Building Education to Advance Research) competition encouraged early career investigators to submit an innovative clinical or translational research proposal for the opportunity to participate in the live event at ATS 2017. Join us to see the top three finalists competitively “pitch” their proposals to a panel of translational science experts representing academia, industry, and governmental sectors. Come support and cheer on the finalists as they compete for the \$5,000 grand prize! All are encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information, please contact [DDDD@thoracic.org](mailto:DDDD@thoracic.org).

### **2017 BEAR Cage Finalists**

#### **Marcus Y. Chen, MD**

National Heart, Lung, and  
Blood Institute (NHLBI)

*Chest CT at Chest X-ray Radiation Dose*

#### **Sanghyuk Shin, PhD**

UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

*Unmasking Resistance: Impact of Low-frequency Drug-Resistance on Molecular Diagnosis of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis*

#### **Prema R. Menon, MD, PhD**

University of Vermont Medical Center

*Communicating with Mechanically Ventilated Patients*

## Cough

When air passes out through our voice box with force, a sound is made that we all recognize as a "cough". The act of coughing usually begins with a deep breath in, followed by air leaving the mouth with force. A cough is your body's way of preventing material from entering your breathing tubes (airways) and clearing mucus or foreign material from your airways. Cough is the most common complaint for which patients seek medical care.



A cough is not a disease, but can be a common symptom of different upper and lower respiratory tract diseases. Even if you do not have a lung disease, you may cough.

## What causes a cough?

A cough can happen when something irritates your nerve endings. Labeled cough receptors. These nerve endings are in many areas inside your body, from your head and neck area, to just above your navel (belly button). Inhaling particles, vapors, smoke, fumes, dust, or cold air may irritate these receptors and may make you cough.

## Can a cough spread infection?

Cough can be a way of spreading infection to others. Infection (the flu) and tuberculosis (TB) are examples of infections that can be spread by coughing infected droplets into the air. While a cold virus (the common cold) can be passed on to others by coughing, cold viruses are much more likely to be spread to others by hand-to-hand contact. Hand-to-hand contact is when you shake hands with someone who has the infection or touch something that has the cold virus on it and then your touch your nose or eyes.

To help decrease the spread of infection, you should:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. You don't want to spread germs to others.
- When a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- Dispose of used tissues into a waste basket.
- Avoid spitting as it can cause a risk that may infect others.
- Ask for and wear a facemask when visiting a healthcare facility if you are coughing or have cold symptoms.
- Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds using soap and water.
- Use an alcohol-based hand rub (sanitizer) when soap and water are not available.

Is there anything special that I should know about my cough? If you have a cough, keep track of how long you have been

that provides vomiting is called pertussis (whooping cough). Such a cough-variant syndrome, according to the CDC, should alert one to the possibility of pertussis. For more information on whooping cough, see the ATS patient information series piece "Pertussis" at [www.thoracic.org/patient](http://www.thoracic.org/patient).

## Acute, Sub-acute and Chronic Cough

There are three time periods to use as you describe how long you have had your cough: acute (lasts less than 3 weeks), sub-acute (lasts 3 to 8 weeks) or chronic (lasts more than 8 weeks and does not let up).

- An acute cough is most often caused by the common cold. This cough usually starts to improve by the third to fifth day. Cough from the common cold usually is not a serious threat to health and usually does not last longer than 14 days. People with a cold typically also complain of nasal stuffiness, runny nose, throat clearing, and a sore or scratchy throat. They also may feel like they have mucus dripping down the back of their throat. Acute cough can also be due to inhaling irritants such as pollen or strong fumes. Cough may be the first symptom of inadequate control of asthma. Less commonly, an acute cough can be due to more serious conditions such as pneumonia or heart failure.
- A sub-acute cough most commonly happens after a respiratory infection (often from a virus). Other common reasons for a sub-acute cough are whooping cough (pertussis) and flare-ups of conditions such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, sinusitis or bronchiectasis. When a cough starts to get better but then worsens, you should see your healthcare provider.
- A chronic cough can happen to you for many reasons. Often, it is a combination of reasons that explain why you are coughing. Chronic cough can happen from upper airway conditions such as inflammation (swelling) of the membranes inside the nose (rhinitis) and sinuses (sinusitis) as a result of allergies or infections or from poorly controlled asthma. Cigarette smoking can cause chronic bronchitis and result

## Patient Education Materials Available at the 2017 International Conference

The ATS now maintains over 100 patient education handouts as part of its Patient Information Series. The Series includes a wide variety of pulmonary/critical care/sleep and public health topics including: Bronchoscopy, Pneumonia, Mechanical Ventilation, Oxygen Therapy, Asthma, COPD, PFTs, Sleep Testing, Lung Cancer, VCD, TB, Emergency/Disaster, and Palliative Care. All pieces are available in English and many available in other languages, such as Spanish and Portuguese.

In addition to the Patient Information Series, a new Lung Cancer Screening Decision Aid is now available for free on the ATS Website, with bulk copies available for purchase.

All are encouraged to use these free-access materials, which are published in the ARJCCM, posted on the ATS Website at [www.thoracic.org/patients](http://www.thoracic.org/patients) and can be provided upon request in alternative formats for EMR systems. Stop by the ATS Center in Washington, D.C. to view copies of these materials. Contact Judy Corn, ATS Staff, at [jcorn@thoracic.org](mailto:jcorn@thoracic.org) for additional information or to suggest new topics.

### Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2017 ATS International Conference in Washington, D.C.

If you're developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Statements, Clinical Practice Guidelines, Workshop Reports, or Technical Standards), please consider attending one or more of these opportunities while you are in Washington, D.C. at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop/Meeting: Friday, May 19th from 6-9 PM, Renaissance Washington Downtown, Meeting Room 8-9. This session is **required** for all Guideline Panel Chairs and Chairs of new non-guideline projects. The session is **recommended** for Chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Please RSVP to John Harmon at [jharmon@thoracic.org](mailto:jharmon@thoracic.org) if you have not already done so. Note: CPG Chairs are required to provide a brief verbal update at this session.
  - ⇒ 6-7 PM – Presentations by DDIC members about the Official Document types, methodological requirements for each, and other practical issues (e.g., conflict of interest management, review, and approval); a light dinner will be served.
  - ⇒ 7-9 PM – Current Guideline Chairs (or their designees) will give progress reports and then troubleshoot informally with DDIC members and ATS staff. New Guideline Chairs will have the opportunity to listen to these reports and learn about the "trials and tribulations" of guideline development from experienced peers.
- Ad Hoc meetings: Whether you are developing or want to develop an official ATS document, you can schedule an appointment with Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist). To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at [kwilson@thoracic.org](mailto:kwilson@thoracic.org) or Jan Brozek at [brozekj@mcmaster.ca](mailto:brozekj@mcmaster.ca).
- Documents Meeting Space: Meeting space will be available to document developers from Sunday-Wednesday; contact Kimberly Lawrence at [klawrence@thoracic.org](mailto:klawrence@thoracic.org) for additional details.
- Guideline Methodology Training Program Information Session: Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7-8:30 PM, Renaissance Washington Downtown, Meeting Rooms 12-13-14. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this new training program is welcome to attend. A brief description of the program will be provided, followed by time for questions and answers. A light dinner will be served. RSVP to [kwilson@thoracic.org](mailto:kwilson@thoracic.org) is required. Space is limited.
- Meet the Professors: A Meet the Professors Session entitled "Official ATS Documents: How to Get Involved" is being hosted by Dr. Raed Dweik (Chair of the Documents Development and Implementation Committee) and Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12:15 until 1:15 pm. Registration is available through the Conference Registration Website.