Message from the Assembly Chair

Dear Member of the Assembly of Pediatrics:

As I reflect on this past year of unprecedented uncertainties, I am incredibly proud of the work that our pediatric assembly members have done. Our members have propelled our field forward, despite challenging circumstances! This work is very visible in the stellar conference program that Terri Laguna (Chair) and Benjamin Kopp (chair-elect) have created for us, with a record number of pediatric focused symposia, highly relevant post graduate courses and incredibly enticing mini-symposia titles! A quick visit to our Pediatric Assembly website pages illustrates the prolific line-up of educational programing that co-chairs Jane Taylor and Maria “Teng” Santiago have provided for us throughout the year. Given the travel and networking limitations that the pandemic has brought us, our pediatric leadership has focused heavily on initiatives to ensure that our trainees and early career investigators continue to have career development opportunities and feel valued. This includes a new virtual seminar series “The ATS Pediatric Pulmonology Early Career Research Series” led by Thomas Saba, new abstract awards introduced by PEPTDA chair Charles Esther Jr, development of strategies for new workforce concerns led by our PPDD director Corie Daines, as well as our excellent ongoing mentoring and apprenticeship programs led by Kristie Ross, Chair of our Early Career Professional Work Group, and PhD scientist development, led by Denise-Al-Alam for the PhD and Basic and Translational Scientists Working Group. Our pediatric advocacy working group, chaired by Christy Sadreamelli, has made great progress in several initiatives that will have meaningful clinical impact for our patients. Diversity, equity and inclusion has been a major theme for the ATS this year, and our pediatric DEI working group, led by Robyn Cohen and Stephanie-Lovinsky-Desir, has been working hard to systematically identify pediatric DEI issues. Please watch out for their DEI survey coming soon that needs your response! Our multiple pediatric interest groups are actively meeting and holding fantastic symposia either pre-conference (Neonatal and the Developing Lung) or in the fall (chILDRN and Pulmonary Complications of Childhood Cancer). Laura Sterni has been leading a pediatric sleep group—more about that at our business meeting. And finally, I would like to recognize the dedication and leadership of our international members, Ozge Yilmaz, Laura Gochioca, Enrico Lombardi, Paul Robinson and Chris Gerdung, who have worked hard to help us keep our assembly relevant around the
world. We have continued to offer multiple educational and scholarly activities targeted to our international members.

As I reflect on the year, I would really like to thank the leaders of our pediatric committees, working groups, and interest groups for the voluntary and cheerful contribution of their time and talents. I would like to especially thank a few heavy hitters who are moving on: Terri Lanuga, programing chair extraordinaire; Erick Forno, who has been effectively chairing our planning committee for the past 4 years, and has shepherded in a new mid-career award for our assembly; and Jane Taylor who has been prolific in producing pediatric specific educational content as our Web director. A warm welcome and thanks for accepting the challenge to Maria “Teng” Santiago who will be chairing the Web committee and Sharon McGrath-Morrow who will chair the Planning Committee.

In a world full of uncertainty, there are some certainties- our patients will continue to need our clinical, educational, research and advocacy efforts and our international conference will unfold this spring! Please don’t forget to attend two free events: our trainees and early career investigators’ abstract presentations and our pediatric assembly membership meeting. I am incredibly excited to see you all in person in San Francisco!

Sharon Dell, BEng, MD, FRCPC, ATSF
Chair

Planning Committee Report:
Erick Forno, MD, MPH, ATSF (Chair)

Despite the difficulties stemming from the pandemic over the past two years, and thanks to the commitment from ATS leadership, the PEDS Assembly had four new Assembly Projects approved this year:

- Two ATS Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG):
  - “Detection of Bronchiolitis Obliterans Post Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant” (led by Dr. Sam Goldfarb)
  - “Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Unresponsive to Medical Therapy” (led by Dr. Don Hayes)

- Two ATS Workshops:
In addition, the ATS CPG on “Outpatient Respiratory Management of Infants, Children, and Adolescents with Post-Prematurity Respiratory Disease”, led by Drs. Ioana Cristea and Chris Baker was published in the December 2021 issue of the Blue Journal. There were two other excellent project applications, including one joint ATS/ERS proposal, that received feedback from the PEDS Planning Committee and the ATS Proposal Review Subcommittee (PRS) and are encouraged to re-apply this year.

The deadline for Assembly Project applications for FY2023 will be **July 31**. The chair and all members of the PEDS Planning Committee will be happy to discuss and answer any questions regarding project proposals. The ATS has put together a comprehensive **Project Application Resource Center**, including videos and examples of successful applications.

The Planning Committee also reviewed all nominations for the PEDS Assembly Awards. As always, we had several exceptional nominees, and the selection process was very challenging. This year the PEDS Assembly introduced the **new Mid-Career Outstanding Contributions Award**, in addition to our four annual awards: the Lifetime Contributions to Pediatric Respiratory Medicine Award, the Robert B. Mellins Outstanding Achievement Award, the Pediatric Clinician Educator Award, and the Carole L. Marcus Outstanding Achievement Award (in partnership with the SRN Assembly). Visit the **PEDS Assembly Awards** page on the ATS website for more info.

The Lifetime Contributions to Pediatric Respiratory Medicine Award is presented annually to awardees who have dedicated their career to advancement in the field. The Mid-Career Outstanding Contributions Award recognizes mid-career individuals for their achievements in research, mentorship, clinical care, education, advocacy, or scholarship. The Clinician Educator Award is presented to a candidate at the assistant or early associate professor level who is an exemplary and innovative clinician and teacher. The Robert Mellins Award recognizes a nominee at the instructor, assistant, or early associate professor level for their achievements in scholarship or research. And the Carole Marcus Award is presented to a junior faculty member for their accomplishments in pediatric sleep and respiratory neurobiology. **Awardees will be announced during the ATS PEDS Assembly Business Meeting on Sunday, May 15, 2022.**

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**Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2023!**

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept **NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2023**. 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, Erick Forno, MD, MPH, ATSF at erick.forno@chp.edu**

For questions regarding submissions please contact Miriam Rodriguez

Tel: (212) 315-8639 or email: Mrodriguez@thoracic.org.
Program Committee Report:
Terri Laguna MD, MSCS (Chair) & Benjamin Kopp, MD, MPH, ATSF, FAAP (Chair-Elect)

At the time of this submission, an in-person party (conference) is still planned for ATS San Francisco 2022. Ben Kopp and I are thrilled to summarize the pediatric content we programmed for the conference below. Our goal was to present a program rich with the latest updates in pediatric pulmonary and sleep medicine, with an eye on diversity, equity, and inclusion. A huge thank you to the entire Pediatric Program Committee for their time, energy, and effort – it takes an entire team to program the conference. We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!

Post Graduate Courses (2)
1. Pediatric Diagnostic, Advanced Diagnostic, and Interventional Bronchoscopy (hands-on course) – 5/13/2022
2. Gender Equity in Academic: A Slippery Ladder and a Leaky Pipeline – 5/14/2022

Symposia (9 – the most the Pediatric Assembly has programmed!)
1. Diagnosing Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Apnea: Current Controversies and Opportunities
2. Location, Location, Location: Specific Environmental Triggers of Pediatric Asthma
3. The Future of Telemedicine and Digital Health Innovations in Pediatric Sleep and Lung Disease
4. Early Pulmonary Complications of Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant
5. The Ongoing Epidemic of Adolescent Vaping: The Latest Evidence on Prevention, Pulmonary Harms and Treatment
6. The Long-Term Effects of COVID-19 on Patients and Public Health
7. Pediatric Clinical Chest Rounds
8. The Pediatric Year in Review
   • Update in Pediatric Sleep Medicine
   • Update on the Status of the Pediatric Pulmonary Workforce
   • The Impact of COVID-19 on the Pediatric Population
   • Disparities in Pediatric Respiratory Disease

Additionally, a joint symposium featuring several pediatric speakers was chosen for a “Chair’s Slot” at the Conference:
9. Living Better, Living Longer: CF Care Across the Lifespan in the New Era of CF Therapeutics

Mini symposia (4 – abstract-based, each with a “Featured Speaker” at the end)
1. A Beautiful Mind: Big Data Approaches to Pediatric Lung Disease
2. Uncovering Health Disparities in Pediatric Lung Disease
3. Best of Pediatrics
4. A Star is Born: Novel Steps to Diagnose and Treat Congenital Lung Disorders

**Poster Discussion Sessions (5 - abstract-based)**

1. Breathe In, Breathe Out: Insights into Pediatric Asthma
2. Just Breathe: Updates in Pediatric Lung Exposome Science
3. The Future's Bright: PCD and CF Diagnostic and Therapeutic Advances
5. Cutting Edge Pediatric Covid-19 Science (RAPiD Poster Discussion Session)

Thematic Poster Sessions: The remainder of the accepted abstracts have been programmed across a series of Thematic Poster Sessions, which cover similar topics to those used for previous ATS conferences. Each session will have identified time for a moderated discussion with 2-3 facilitators. Please make sure to visit the posters, especially those from our trainees and junior faculty – people enjoy talking about their research and we have not been able to network and connect for a few years. We are proud to include a session focused on “Interventional Pediatric Pulmonology and Critical Care,” – a new topic addition on behalf of the Peds Assembly.

**Meet the Expert (3)**

1. Biologics for Severe Asthma in Children: How to Choose your Target
2. Baby, Baby, Baby: Exploring OSA in Infants
3. Nicotine and Tobacco Dependence Counseling and Treatment in Pediatric Healthcare

Thank you for your ongoing participation and support of the Pediatric Assembly of the ATS. The pediatric content is as rigorous as it is because of YOUR contributions. Let’s make every effort to support our trainees and junior faculty members as they work to build research and clinical careers. We look forward to celebrating the accomplishments of the past few years in San Francisco over dessert at “Hot Cookie” in The Castro (I’m buying for anybody who wants to join).

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Web Committee Report:
Jane Bowen Taylor, MD, MSCR & Maria Teng Santiago, MD, Co-Directors

The Web Committee would like to thank the PEDS assembly for their continued support and efforts in helping our web-based learning endeavors and communication strategies thrive! Your participation in Journal Clubs, Town Halls, the ATS Pediatric Pulmonary and Sleep Case Conference monthly webinar series, Podcasts and Quick Hits cases has continued to create a wonderful collection of educational tools for our assembly. Here are some highlights from the past year and ways that you can become involved:

**Peds Assembly Journal Clubs:** Journal club this year has focused on BPD. The peds journal club chairs include Drs. Maria Teresa “Teng” Santiago from Cohen Children’s Medical Center in New York, Emily DeBoer from Colorado Children’s, Anne Coates from Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital in Portland Maine, and Mitzi Go from the University of Oregon. View PEDS journal clubs here for your convenience. If you would like to participate or have an idea for a future journal club, please contact us at MSantiag@northwell.edu, Emily.DeBoer@childrenscolorado.org or gom@osu.edu.

**Peds Assembly Town Halls:** In the rapidly changing clinical environment that we have all found ourselves in, the Pediatric Town Hall committee was created to get timely information out to the assembly and facilitate meaningful discussions between diverse academic centers. The Town Hall assembly chairs include Dr. Jane Taylor from Children’s Hospital of
Pittsburgh, Dr. Adrian O’Hagan from the University of Louisville and Dr. María Teresa “Teng” Santiago. This year the Townhalls have covered a variety of topics that included the ventilator recall, COVID-19 impact on pediatric medical education and vaccine hesitancy. If you would like to participate or have an idea for a future Town Hall, please contact us at msantiago@northwell.edu; jane.taylor@chp.edu and adrian.ohagan@louisville.edu.

**ATS Pediatric Pulmonary and Sleep Case Conference Series:** This is a monthly webinar series held the second Wednesday of each month for pulmonology and the third Wednesday of each month for sleep presentations. Centers take turns presenting in a round robin format at 12-1 CST (1-2 EST). There are two cases presented each month with a review of the literature afterwards with time for questions from the participating centers. The co-editors are Drs. Jane Taylor from Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Dave Ingram from Children’s Mercy Kansas City, and Adrian O’Hagan from the University of Louisville. A 3rd case conference for pediatric pulmonology centers is being Considered at this time. If your center would like to participate or you would like to get on the conference distribution list, please contact Jane Taylor at jane.taylor@chp.edu, Dave Ingram at dgingram@cmh.edu or Adrian O’Hagan at adrian.ohagan@louisville.edu.

**Peds Assembly Podcasts:** The Chair of the podcast committee is Dr. Dave Ingram. His group has produced podcasts on a variety of topics which have included pulmonary hypertension, collateral ventilation, the Cystic Fibrosis Microbiome, Cystic Fibrosis exacerbation management, airway clearance strategies in Spinal Muscular Atrophy patients and the impact of COVID-19 on fellowship education. Please contact Dave Ingram at dgingram@cmh.edu if you would like to get involved.

**Fellowship Educational Content Collaboration:** A joint endeavor between the PEPTDA pediatric pulmonology fellowship committee and the web committee is working together to produce content that can be used at individual academic centers for fellowship education. Drs. Ryan Thomas from Michigan State University, Christina Barreda from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Elizabeth Fiorino from Cornell University have started coordinating podcast content focused on teach-back educational strategies that can be incorporated into individual academic centers fellowship educational curriculum over time. They have currently created content on Pulmonary Function Testing, Pulmonary Hypertension and Surfactant Function/Mutations. If you would like to get involved, please contact Ryan Thomas at thoma477@msu.edu, Christina Barreda at cbarreda@wisc.edu or Elizabeth Fiorino at ekf9002@med.cornell.edu.

**Quick Hits:** A radiographic based vignette learning tool pertaining to pulmonology, sleep and ICU cases. An image with a vignette and question are presented to the learner. Once the learner has selected their answer from 4 options, the answer is revealed with a quick summary of the current literature on that topic. View PEDS Quick Hits here. Anyone who has had a case accepted for the ATS meeting should also consider reformatting it and submitting it to Quick Hits for an additional way to highlight their work. If you have any questions, or would like to join the Quick Hits team, contact Drs Katelyn Krivchenia (Nationwide Children’s Hospital) at Katelyn.Krivchenia@nationwidechildrens.org and Melissa Holtzlander (Nationwide Children’s Hospital) at Melissa.Holtzlander@nationwidechildrens.org. We have had 4 pediatric Quickhits cases accepted this year and two more that are about to be posted.

**Social Media:** The social media chair is Dr. Alvin Singh from Children’s Mercy Kansas City. You can follow us on the Twitter handle @ATSPeds for research highlights, advocacy, upcoming educational content and general peds assembly news. Twitter is a quick and easy way to stay connected in our time-starved lives. If you are interested in joining the social media team, contact Alvin Singh at avsingh@cmh.edu.

**VIPPN:** In addition to our assembly webpage, our fantastic partners in the International Relations Committee, led by Drs. Ozge Yilmaz and Laura Gochicoa-Rangel, have created the Virtual International Pediatric Pulmonary Network (VIPPN) Case Series. To date their series has been running since December of 2020 and has had presenters from many different countries including: Italy, France, Iran, US, Turkey and Israel. On average, their webinar series have between 80-100 participants in each session. If you would like to contact the VIPPN you can reach out to Ozge Yilmaz at ogilmaz_76@hotmail.com or Laura Gochicoa-Rangel at laura_gochicoa@icloud.com.

**The Virtual Pediatric Flexible Bronchoscopy Library:** This is being created as an educational tool for residents, fellows and faculty on the different bronchoscopy findings that are seen in pediatric pulmonology. This library would not be possible without Dr. Robert Wood from Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. While Dr. Wood has retired from patient care, he continues to push the frontiers of pediatric flexible bronchoscopy learning through the creation of this virtual library. The co-chairs are
Drs. Joe Piccione from Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (piccionej@email.chop.edu) and Dan Benscoter from Cincinnati Children’s Hospital (dan_benscoter@cchmc.org). The first case is under production and should be available this fall.

**The ATS Pediatric Pulmonology Early Career Research Series:** This conference is a bi-monthly virtual research seminar given by early career researchers. It is run in coordination with the Early Career Professionals Committee at ATS. This webinar series is run through the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Thomas Saba is the conference editor. If you would like to participate or get on the conference distribution list, please contact Thomas Saba at tsaba@med.umich.edu.

This is my last year as the Web Director for the PEDS Assembly. I have worked closely this year with my partner and good friend Dr. Maria Teresa Santiago, who will assume the role of the peds assembly web director at the end of our 2022 ATS meeting. It has truly been an honor serving the peds assembly community! We are extremely lucky to have Dr. Santiago, with her expertise and enthusiasm, take the reins and keep our momentum moving forward into the future.

Follow us on Twitter @ATSPeds

### Science and Innovation Center Report:
**Matthew McGraw MD, MPH, PEDS Representative**

The purpose of the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) is to provide a venue for basic and translational scientists for networking, sharing tips on career development, and learning the newest technologies and methodological innovations. Collective programming between assemblies for the 2022 ATS International Conference has been evenly divided among these three domains. The SIC also sponsors the annual Bear Cage Competition, PhD Reception, and Early Career Awards Sessions. A full schedule of sessions will be finalized and disseminated to the Peds Assembly in early April.

Two sessions to highlight that are led by the Pediatric Assembly include:

- Monday, May 16th 8-9 am: ‘Leveraging LungMAP as a Resource for Biologic Discovery’
- Monday, May 16th 10-1130 am: ‘Repair and Regeneration of the Lung: Targeting Stem Cells in Cystic Fibrosis’
  - Featured speakers include: Don Hayes, MD (Cincinnati Children’s), Brigitte Gomperts, MD (UCLA Children’s), and Andrew Bericel, MD (Boston University)

Free coffee and a light breakfast will be available for all morning sessions at the SIC. All are welcome for starting each day at ATS 2022! Please feel free to email me (matthew_mcgraw@urmc.rochester.edu) with any clarifying details. The SIC is also open to further involvement, especially from the Pediatrics Assembly and from early stage investigators.
Early Career Professional Working Group Report:
Kristie R. Ross, MD, MS, Chairs

The Early Career Professionals Working Group is thrilled to be moving back to meeting in person in 2022! Look for meeting information soon. Thanks to all who applied as Apprentices for the Planning, Program and Web Committees this year – look for an announcement on our new Apprentices in May. Thanks to all currently participating in the Mentorship Program – especially to mentors for supporting early career professionals.

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 and two receptions.

Moscone Center West
(Room: Overlook 3018, Floor: Level 3)
Sunday, May 15 – Monday, May 16, 2022, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Join us at the Mentoring Receptions:
Sunday, May 15 – Monday, May 16, 2022, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Please note, this space is exclusively for Mentoring Program participants*

ATS Contact - Nicole Feijoo at NFeijoo@thoracic.org

Pediatric Advocacy Advisory Group Report:
Christy Sadreameli, MD, MHS, Chair

We are now in our fourth year, and things are going well. We have four subgroups, with all members having a primary membership, but membership involvement and interests overlap.

• Our subgroups:

1. E-cigarettes and tobacco subgroup
   a. Subchair: Devika Rao Devika.Rao@UTSouthwestern.edu

2. Stock albuterol subgroup
   b. Subchair: Lynn Gerald lgerald@email.arizona.edu

3. Air quality and environment subgroup
   c. Subchair: Jessica Rice jrice25@jhmi.edu

4. Pediatric rare and chronic lung disease subgroup
d. Subchair: Traci Kazmerski Traci.Kazmerski@chp.edu

- **ATS meeting sessions sponsored by the committee and/or its members:**
  - E-cigarette symposium planned and co-chaired by three committee members.
  - Meet the Expert (Dr. Hal Farber) session on nicotine and tobacco dependence counseling and treatment in pediatric healthcare

- **School stock albuterol legislative updates involving members:**
  - Maryland: A stock albuterol bill is moving through the House after passing committee and subcommittee unanimously.
  - Iowa: Legislation will be introduced for a second time.
  - Texas: A task force has been formed to work on new legislation, since the current legislation is too restrictive.
  - Montana: A group of advocates has started to plan for legislation
  - Hawaii: A group of pediatric pulmonologists and other advocates have started planning for legislation and have sought our advise.

- We have two representatives (Dr. Clement Ren and Dr. Nadine Mokhallati) who advise the ATS/ACCP Joint Clinical Practice Committee on pediatric matters as needed.

- Two members (to be named) are being nominated to be members of the ATS Policy Committee. The plan is for cross-membership to provide synergy/collaboration between committees.

- A working group has formed to survey the advocacy issues and needs for technology dependent children. A survey is in preparation, will be distributed nationally, and will serve as a needs assessment. Next steps may include an editorial, application for a future ATS sponsored document- TBD.

- We have networked with the advocacy group Parents Against Youth Vaping and E-Cigarettes (PAVE) and are exploring potential collaborations.

- We receive monthly updates on federal advocacy matters and provide input/perspective as needed.

- Our committee remains interested in advocacy opportunities related to pediatric rare and chronic lung disease (awareness, funding, etc.) but we are not working on anything specific. Please contact us if you have ideas.

The committee enjoys a diverse membership from around the U.S. with a nice mix of junior and senior members. Please feel free to contact us with questions, interest, or requests for expertise.

Christy Sadreameli, M.D., M.H.S.
Chair of Pediatric Advocacy Advisory Group
PhD and Basic and Translational Scientists Working Group Report:

Denise Al-Alam, PhD, MS, PEDS Assembly Representative

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-six 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. Natalie Bauer (Assembly on PC) and Richard Johnston (Assembly on RSF). 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 devising strategies to recruit Ph.D. scientists to the Society. We have highlighted some of the WG’s efforts in the subsequent text.

1. **Assembly Project.** On behalf of the PBTS WG, Bethany Moore, Ph.D., ATSF spearheaded the development and submission of an Assembly Project through the Assembly on RSF entitled “Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities and ATS Membership”. This project will address the perception that many Ph.D. scientists contribute to the mission of subspeciality clinical divisions within Departments of Medicine and of Pediatrics, yet barriers exist for them to attain tenure-track faculty status. By convening a virtual meeting in 2022 of Medical School Deans, Department Chairs, Division Directors, NIH Administrators, and Ph.D. scientists with a vested interest in adult and pediatric pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine, the organizers of this project hope to demonstrate to Division Directors the importance of including Ph.D. scientists in their hiring plan and providing the necessary support for their ultimate success.

2. **PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Virtual Networking Event.** On February 8, 2022, PBTS WG members, Natalie Bauer, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) and Samantha Yeligar, Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB), co-chaired a networking event along with the SIC entitled “Successful Collaborations”. At this event, two U.S.- and two European (U.K.)-based M.D. and Ph.D. scientific collaborators discussed how their professional scientific relationship evolved and became successful. Afterwards, participants went into separate breakout rooms for an in-depth discussion on the formation and endurance of these collaborations with either the U.S.- or European (U.K.)-based collaborators. The PBTS WG/SIC hope to provide more Ph.D.-centric events in the upcoming year.

3. **Brochure.** Along with graphic designers at the ATS, a PBTS WG subcommittee headed by James Londino, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) has put together a two-sided brochure highlighting the advantages of ATS membership for Ph.D. scientists. This brochure specifically targets Ph.D. scientists who attend the ATS International Conference but who are not currently ATS members. A hard copy of this brochure will be available at various locales at the 2022 ATS International Conference in San Francisco. In addition, view the digital version here.

4. **T32:** This subcommittee is chaired by Indu Ayappa, Ph.D. (Assembly on SRN) and was formed following discussions at the Virtual Ph.D./Science and Innovation Center (SIC) Reception in May of 2021. The objectives of this subcommittee include: (1) increasing the pipeline of Ph.D. scientists in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine by advocating for additional slots in T32 applications for pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows, (2) increasing the number of Ph.D. scientists as principal investigators of T32 applications, and (3) providing resources for Ph.D. scientists interested in submitting T32 applications. On behalf of this subcommittee, Natalie Bauer, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) submitted a proposal entitled “So, You Want to Write a T32?” for presentation at the 2022 SIC. As this newsletter is being prepared, the outcome of this proposal’s programming is pending.

5. **Survey.** To understand the rationale as to why Ph.D. scientists attend the ATS International Conference but are not ATS
members, Janette Burgess, Ph.D., ATSF (Assembly on RSF) has assembled a subcommittee of PBTS WG members to design a survey to answer this question. This survey will be distributed to all 2022 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 PBTS WG hopes to use the survey data to understand how the ATS and PBTS WG can be best equipped to address their needs.

6. **Awards.** A PBTS WG Awards subcommittee was established in the past year and is chaired by Scott Randell, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The purpose of this subcommittee is to identify and nominate worthy basic and translational scientists (i.e., Ph.D.’s) for the annual ATS Respiratory Health Awards (i.e., Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishment, etc.)

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 Richard Johnston (rfj1@cdc.gov) or Natalie Bauer (nbauer@southalabama.edu).

I am pleased to represent our assembly in this working group, which is comprised of non-clinicians from each of the Assemblies who advocate for the need of PhD researchers within the ATS. We provide a research voice toward Society-wide issues; promote diversity, equity, and inclusion the Society; and advocate for early- and mid-career investigators. One of our recent efforts is to increase PhD membership within ATS by surveying non-ATS PhD investigators who attend the annual conference this year to learn what we can do to make ATS a home for them.

**Please join us in San Francisco for two exciting events**

- PhD Reception on Sunday, May 15th from 3 – 5 pm in the Science and Innovation Center at the Convention Center, Room 155 (South Building, Upper Mezzanine). Enjoy a cocktail as you network and mingle at this free event. For more information and to register in advance for the reception below.

- Panel discussion on T32 submissions on Tuesday, May 17th from 10 – 11 am in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC)

**Nominating Committee Report:**
*Paul E. Moore, MD, ATSF, Chair*

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the election of Erick Forno, MD, MPH, ATSF as Pediatric Program Chair Elect. Robyn Cohen, MD, MPH and Beverley Sheares, MD, MS were also elected as new members of the Nominating Committee. The Pediatric Assembly Chair-Elect will be announced at the Pediatrics Assembly annual business meeting at the International Conference. Paul Moore, MD, ATSF chaired the Nominating Committee and expresses gratitude to Stephanie Lovinsky-Desir, MD, MS, Indra Narang, BMEDSCI, MBBCH, MD, and Christian Rosas-Salazar, MD, MPH, ATSF for serving on the committee.

**PEDS International Relations Working Group Report:**
*Ozge Yilmaz MD & Laura Gochiocoa, MD, Co-Chairs*

International Relations committee aims to form a platform where specialists working in the clinical and research field of pediatric pulmonology can collaborate to express their needs in clinical care and research.

The group has 57 members from many different countries including but not limited to Algeria, Arab, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Canadá, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iran, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, México, Morocco, Nigeria, Panamá, Perú, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, South
Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United States Of America

We have had VIPPN clinical cases series webinars every two months since December 3, 2020. To date, we have had eight webinars. Groups from México, Italy, France, Iran, US, Turkey and Israel have presented. The last one was on February 3, 2022. We have about 80-100 participants for each webinar.

One of the projects of the group is Virtual International Pediatric Pulmonary Network (VIPPN) that aims to be the platform of IRC to communicate through members and other international Pediatric Pulmonologists. The website is open to announcement of international meetings and projects. You can visit the website here.

We are looking forward to more suggestions for collaborative research and shared needs in the field. Please contact Dr. Ozge Yilmaz (oyilmaz.76@hotmail.com) or Dr. Laura Gochicoa (drgochis@gmail.com) to join the group and propose projects.

Interest Group on Neonatal and the Developing Lung Report:
Trent E. Tipple, MD & Laurie Christine Eldredge, MD, PhD, Co-Chairs

The objectives of ATS Neonatal and Developing Lung Interest Group (NDLIG) are 1) to create networking opportunities for basic and clinical scientists in developmental biology, injury and repair, physiology and clinical/translational research, 2) to present state-of-the-art presentations on important topics in neonatal pulmonology, and 3) to support both clinical and basic research in neonatal lung science.

We have met annually at ATS, and our steering committee meets several times a year. We had a well-attended Virtual NDLIG meeting on 6/14/2021 where Dr. Gail Deutsch presented “Clinical Implications of Normal and Abnormal Lung Development”. This year, we have an exciting Virtual NDLIG meeting planned for 4/29/22 at 4:00pm ET, including three speakers who conduct basic and translational research in developmental lung biology. This seminar will occur between PAS and ATS, and it is our hope that the virtual meeting will stimulate conversations to be continued in person at ATS 2022. We will present four Whitsett awards to recognize outstanding research within the topics relevant to the NDLIG presented by new and young investigators at ATS 2022.

The NDLIG email list grew by 57% after our last Virtual NDLIG meeting to a total of 406 members. Please contact Dr. Trent Tipple (trent-tipple@ouhsc.edu) or Dr. Laurie Eldredge (laurie.eldredge@seattlechildrens.org) with questions and to be added to our email list serve.

Also, follow us on twitter! @atsneonatal

Interest Group on Pulmonary Complications of Childhood Cancer Report:
Interest Group Report: Samuel B. Goldfarb, MD, Chairs

The mission of ATS Pulmonary Complications of Childhood Cancer Special Interest Group is to provide a discussion forum for ATS members from diverse assemblies with an interest in pulmonary complications of childhood cancer therapy, including both acute complications occurring during therapy as well as the late pulmonary complications identified in pediatric and adult childhood cancer survivors.

The group is particularly important for junior ATS members who have an interest in scholarship in these areas and provides
a mechanism for both adult and pediatric pulmonologists as well as basic scientists interested in mechanisms of pulmonary fibrosis, radiation injury and immunologic lung injury related to stem cell transplants for any etiology to interact and develop educational and scholarly work that benefits ATS members. We meet on a monthly basis. These meeting include research updates, patient discussions and strategic planning. We hosted our annual virtual conference in November 2021 featuring presentation on early and late pulmonary injury post stem cell transplant. We are in the process of creating ATS sponsored good practice guidelines ATS FY2022 Project: Detection of Bronchiolitis Obliterans Post Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant. Our goal is to establish recommendations regarding pre SCT and post-transplant pulmonary disease assessment. This collaborative effort due to be completed in late fall 2023.

Our group was very excited about our upcoming ATS session for this upcoming ATS - B5, EARLY PULMONARY COMPLICATIONS OF PEDIATRIC STEM CELL TRANSPLANT

Please contact Samuel Goldfarb Goldf091@umn.edu with questions and to be added to our email list serve.

**Interest Group on Children’s Interstitial and Diffuse Lung Disease Research Network (chILDRN) Interest Group Report:**

Alicia Casey, MD, Elizabeth Fiorino, MD, & Jennifer Wambach, MD, Co-Chairs

The mission of the Children’s Interstitial and Diffuse Lung Disease Research Network (chILDRN) is to improve care for children with rare diffuse lung disease around the world through research, education, and advocacy. Our group held our second successful Annual Meeting virtually on October 29, 2021. We were pleased to have over 250 registrants with significant international participation. The focus of this meeting was on health equity in chILD with updates from the national chILDRN from Rebekah Nevel, MD, and international research networks including chILD European Union from Steve Cunningham, MD, chILD Australia and New Zealand from Adam Jaffee, MD, and chILD South America from Alejandro Teper, MD.

The middle section of our meeting featured three important health equity talks including Beverley Sheares, MD speaking on the "Use of Race as a Variable in Research", followed by a talk on "Health Equity and chILD" by Vivek Balasubramaniam, and closing with "An Update on the Pediatric Pulmonary Workforce" by Terri Laguna. The meeting closed with an inspirational talk from Larry Nogee from Johns Hopkins on the "Utility of Genetic Testing in chILD to Guide Diagnosis and Therapeutics". To view the meeting recording please visit our website. chILDRN continues to meet on a monthly basis virtually over Zoom. Each monthly meeting includes research updates, registry updates, foundation updates, patient discussions and strategic planning. We are planning to host our third annual chILD SIG virtual meeting in the Fall of 2022 as part of the ATS 2022 programming. We are grateful to the ATS for support of our chILD SIG and our virtual meetings.

**ATS/ SIMRI Interest Group Report:**

Enrico Lombardi, MD, Chair

This Interest Group is one of the products of the PEDS International Relations Committee, that has created national delegates to strengthen the relationships with the local Societies of Pediatric Pulmonology around the world. It is intended to increase the collaboration between the ATS Pediatrics Assembly and SIMRI (Società Italiana Malattie Respiratorie Infantili, Italian Pediatric Respiratory Society) by sharing information and experience on ongoing projects, with the aim of reviewing successful strategies, barrier identification to implementation, and unique aspects, and the goal of establishing joint projects between the two Societies.

The main goal of both ATS and SIMRI is to promote research, education, patient care, and advocacy. The collaboration between the ATS and SIMRI involves the participation in joint activities (PEDS Journal Club and “Quick Hits”, PEDS
International Relations Committee webinars) and the translation and dissemination of the ATS Patients’ Fact Sheets (several pediatric Fact Sheets were translated into Italian and posted in both the ATS website and the SIMRI website). Also, the group is actively participating in the VIPPN Clinical Case series, which was started last year by the PEDS International Relations Committee.

Furthermore, the “Pediatric Lung” International Session during the SIMRI National Congress every year has now become a regular event involving prominent members of the ATS PEDS Assembly. Since 2019 it has become a plenary session of the SIMRI National Congress. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic situation the 2020 “International Pediatric Lung” could not be held, but in 2021 we were able to arrange a hybrid version of the SIMRI Congress, and the “International Pediatric Lung” session was held in person in Verona on Oct 25th. This year the annual SIMRI Congress will hopefully be in Palermo and the “International Pediatric Lung” session will be held on Oct 28th.

**Pediatric Sleep Update:**
Laura M. Sterni, MD, PEDS Liaison

The ABIM is now offering a longitudinal knowledge assessment for maintenance of certification to all sleep diplomates. The ABP will offer this longitudinal assessment (similar to MOCA-Peds) to its sleep diplomates. Certified sleep physicians will be invited to participate the year they are scheduled to take the sit-down/proctored recertification exam. At that time, you can choose the proctored exam or the longitudinal assessment. The longitudinal assessment is taken on your computer, is “open-book” and questions are sent over the period of five years on a periodic basis.

In 2023, a pilot sponsored by the American Board of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery named “Sleep Medicine Longitudinal Knowledge Assessment (LKA): Obstructive Sleep Apnea Emphasis” will launch. All diplomates in sleep medicine will be offered the opportunity to participate in this pilot, including those certified by the ABP, as an alternative to the current longitudinal MOC for sleep.

**Pediatrics Assembly Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group (DEI-WG):**
Robyn Cohen, MD, MPH & Stephanie Lovinsky-Desir, MD, MS, Co-Chairs

In July 2020 the Pediatrics Assembly of the ATS established the Diversity/Equity/Inclusion workgroup (DEI-WG) to promote workforce diversity within our Assembly and the field of Pediatric Pulmonology. The DEI-WG consists of 21 individuals who identify as URiM and/or allies from across the U.S., at all career levels from Pediatric Pulmonary Fellows to Full Professors, with representation from leadership including Division Directors, Fellowship Directors, and Pediatrics Assembly Leadership.

The DEI-WG has had a busy year! Our 3 subcommittees (Pipeline, Training, and Faculty Development/Retention) created a Pediatrics Assembly DEI Needs Assessment Survey. Our objectives for the Needs Assessment are to gain an understanding of the baseline status of the pediatric pulmonary work force, and to learn more about successes, gaps, and opportunities to enhance how we recruit, train, retain, and nurture a diverse workforce. **We need your help!** In order for our needs assessment to be successful we would like to see responses from a broad representation across our assembly. We expect the DE Needs Assessment Survey to be administered electronically in the Spring 2022, so look for it in your email inboxes!

In addition to the development of the Needs Assessment, the DEI-WG successfully applied for an Assembly Project to conduct an ATS Workshop on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Pediatric Pulmonary Workforce, with the goal of producing an official ATS Workshop Report, to be published in *Annals ATS* in 2023. Our workshop is being planned for Summer 2022. Our objectives for the workshop are to gather the members of the DEI-WG along with an expert panel of leaders in academic medicine to review the findings of the DEI Needs Assessment, and develop and disseminate concrete strategies that can be implemented in pediatric pulmonology training programs and divisions to improve the recruitment, retention, and professional development of URiM fellows and faculty.
Pediatric Pulmonology Division Directors Association (PPDDA) Report:
Cori Danes, MD, Chair

The PPDDA has several ongoing projects including

1. PPDDA workforce subgroups published several articles in Pediatric Pulmonology last year addressing the Pediatric Pulmonology pipeline, fellowship concerns and the future of pediatric pulmonology.

2. PPDDA fosters the pipeline by sponsoring and supporting the ATS Pediatric Resident Development Scholarship Program. We are currently in the process of selecting residents to receive this scholarship from the ATS in order to attend ATS 2022. We will have an award ceremony and opportunities to network for these residents at ATS 2022.

3. Continued support of Basecamp for our division directors as a forum to consider issues.

4. Our Executive Committee continues to meet monthly

5. PPDDA continues to host combined PPDDA and PEPTDA business meetings at NACFC 2021 (virtually) and at ATS 2022 (in person).

Last year was an election year for the PPDDA and Terri Luguna, MD is the President-elect of PPDDA and Chris Oermann is now the Past President. Please send us any updates to your divisions as we welcome all division directors!

Pediatric Pulmonology Training Directors Association (PEPTDA) Report:
Charles R. Esther Jr., MD, PhD, President

Throughout the year, PEPTDA has sponsored many events designed to promote education of fellows and other trainees this year. In November 2021, we hosted a seminar with Dr. David Turner of the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) on integration of entrustable professional activities (EPAs) into fellow evaluation. We are currently coordinating with ABP to form a working group focused on EPA integration into pediatric pulmonology that we hope will serve as a model for other pediatric subspecialties. PEPTDA will also host another webinar in April 2022 that is being organized by Dr. Chantal Grant and will feature Dr. Pnina Weiss and a panel of speakers discussing the challenges of promoting scholarly activity within fellowship programs. PEPTDA is also very pleased to be offering Trainee Abstract Awards for the first time at the international ATS conference. Organized by Dr. Ben Nelson, these awards will recognize the top three case reports and scientific abstracts submitted by residents or fellows. Members of the PEPTDA executive committee are also exploring several other projects including the flipped classroom model with Dr. Liz Fiorino, development of an online curriculum for students and residents on pediatric pulmonology elective led by Dr. Aliva De, and creating a workshop for training programs to advertise their programs to interested residents and other trainees.

PEPTDA will be holding their annual election for Vice President in May, with Dr. Esther moving into the past president role and current Vice President Dr. Nelson assuming the Presidency. We will also be having elections for Secretary/Treasurer. We welcome interest from any Program Directors who would like to join the PEPTDA leadership to help promote fellowship education within the ATS and the broader academic community.