MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear Assembly Colleagues,

It is amazing how fast 2 years can go and my term as the Pediatric Assembly Chair is now drawing to an end. It’s been an incredible honor to serve you as the Pediatric Assembly Chair. I have witnessed firsthand the role The American Thoracic Society’s (ATS) Pediatric Assembly has had in improving pulmonary health for children around the world. The ATS leadership and the energy and expertise of our members are the engines for this incredible impact. I would be remiss if I did not recognize the tremendous effort and passion of the current executive committee members who work as a volunteer to make things happen for the Assembly and children. Thank you!

Our assembly has embarked on important and new exciting initiatives these past two year some of which I would like to share with you. First the 2015 American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference will be in my home state of Colorado and is rapidly approaching. I feel like I am throwing a big party for you all to attend! The conference program chairs and their committee have developed an outstanding program for those clinicians, researchers, and allied health professionals who are dedicated to caring for pediatric lung, sleep, and critical care disease. We will once again offer a broad slate of exciting maintenance at certification (MOC) opportunities that those on our education committee have worked tirelessly to bring to our membership. Pediatric MOC has been extremely successful as witnessed by the attendance at meetings and your evaluations. Our exceptional senior and junior leaders will also be recognized. The distinguished Founders Award, whose dinner and celebration at the International Conference has quickly become an anticipated evening of celebration for all of us, recognizes giants in our field. The Endowed Robert B. Mellins, MD Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes a candidate at the Instructor, Assistant or Associate Professor level for achievement in scholarship or research achievements over the previous year and the Pediatric Clinician Educator Award recognizes a candidate at the Assistant or Associate Professor level for clinical skills and teaching abilities. Further information about the conference can be found in his newsletter. Please check it out and join me in Denver!

(Continued on page 2)
This past two years has marked the beginning of the new electronic age for the assembly. Under the leadership of Dr. Wan Tsai, Website Director, and her committee the first web based Journal Clubs have been initiated with great success. Journal club is now offered every other month on line with research and clinical focused papers alternating time slots. Please join us for these excellent sessions to stay up to date on current literature and enjoy intellectually stimulating conversation on line. I will even be Tweeting with a few others about the ATS experience in Denver – see me at @LungDoc4Kids! These efforts are done to expand multiple different types of communication efforts. Please consider joining our web committee to further enhance this new age!

Last year with the help of an organizing committee of Stephanie Davis and Jules Allen, I initiated a new pediatric division/section director leadership group at the annual ATS conference in San Diego and a similar meeting was held at North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference. Both were embraced with great enthusiasm. This is an important opportunity for the leadership in pediatric pulmonary programs around the world to organize collective thoughts and wisdom to address changes in healthcare dynamics, funding pressures, training, NIH changes, and other issues that will impact the future of pediatric pulmonary. Attendees at the meeting felt we could all learn from each other without recreating the wheel every time to better message the strengths and benefits of our profession and advocate for children health. We now have working groups for Finance, Pipeline, Training and Physician Scientist and will be meeting again in Denver. A survey is under development to learn more about the current status of pediatric pulmonary leadership and our programs. Already the ability to mobilize and talk to leadership in Pediatric Pulmonary has been valuable.

The Planning Committee continued to be busy this past year, reviewing a number of new project and renewal applications. This past year saw the completion of a major ATS Technical Standards Document on the “Flexible Bronchoscopy of the Pediatric Airway” (PI: Al Faro.) which will be published shortly. One other important guidelines on “Pediatric Chronic Home Ventilation” (PI: Ann Halbower) is in the final stages before publication. One primary Pediatric Assembly project was approved by the ATS Program Review Subcommittee. This was entitled, “Clinical Diagnostic Guidelines in Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia.” (PI: Adam Shapiro.) Four additional new applications were approved in which Pediatrics was a secondary assembly. In addition, four primary pediatric assembly projects were approved as renewals and included, “Evaluation of Respiratory Mechanics and Function in the Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit” (PI: Stacey Peterson-Carmichael), Guidelines for the Evaluation and Treatment of Recurrent Wheezing in Infancy” (PI: Clement Ren), “Standardisation of Preschool Inert Gas Washout” (PI: Paul Robinson) and “Pediatric Chronic Home Ventilation” (PI: Ann Halbower.) These documents are critically important to improving the care of complex patients worldwide with these diseases. The planning committee is a critical part of how these documents are in vision, planned and funded.

We will be expanding the excellent work of the International Committee, under the leadership of Enrico Lombardi, to finally launch the Virtual International Pediatric Pulmonary Network (VIPPN) on the new ATS website. This site should serve to link Pediatric Pulmonologist around the world. We also will be hosting a delegation of 30 from the Societa' Italiana Malattie Respiratorie Infantili (SIMRI) in Denver for a combined ATS/SIMRI program as we reach out to international pediatric societies around the world in new ways.

Finally, it is with a great deal of gratitude and satisfaction that I now step down as chair and look forward to greeting our new Chair, Jim Chmiel, in Denver. However, what I hope is clear is that the Pediatric Assembly is an active and vibrant place for people who want to make a difference for children! Thank you all for making my experience wonderful and I look forward to continuing to work with you in this great organization well into the future.
The Planning Committee will continue to work with our Assembly membership to achieve ATS support for new Pediatric Assembly projects as well as support for our ongoing projects. The Planning Committee will also be reviewing the current Pediatric Statements on the ATS website to determine whether any updates are needed or if statements are no longer current.

Debra Boyer (Boston, MA) will be completing her term as the Planning Committee Chair this year. The new Planning Committee Chair will soon be appointed. If you have an idea for a project, have any questions regarding future Pediatric Assembly projects or would like help conducting a survey of the Pediatric Assembly membership regarding interest in your idea, please contact Debra at Debra.Boyer@childrens.harvard.edu or the next chair. The Committee encourages you to submit your project proposals to the Planning Committee for consideration in advance of submission to the ATS. New project applications are currently being solicited. All projects will undergo peer-review by the Pediatric Assembly Planning Committee and Program Review Subcommittee.

Update from Program Committee Chair
Felix Ratjen, MD & Margaret Rosenfeld, MD

The International Conference Program Committee of the Pediatric Assembly has been working hard to create a great program. I am happy to say that the number of symposia and postgraduate courses with a major pediatric component has grown substantially. There is considerable breadth in the program and I am sure that everybody will find multiple interesting sessions. A special focus this year is on the role of genetics and new genetic tools in pediatric lung diseases and how we translate the rapidly accumulating evidence into clinical care. All the major pediatric diseases are covered including asthma, cystic fibrosis, infections, sleep disorders in children, pulmonary hypertension and intensive care both in the PICU and NICU and new research is presented in multiple abstract driven sessions. Additionally, cystic fibrosis will be highlighted in the President symposium. A complete schedule of pediatric sessions is listed below; please plan to come to Denver to join us for an exciting conference!

ATS 2015 - Denver
Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Pediatrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session Code</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Session Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PG9</td>
<td>PEDIATRIC PULMONARY HYPERTENSION: MECHANISMS AND MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PG22</td>
<td>THE ART OF PEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY PHYSIOLOGY: FORM AND FUNCTION</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PG23</td>
<td>PULMONARY COMPLICATIONS OF NON-PULMONARY DISEASES IN CHILDREN</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Scientific Symposium

#### Sunday, May 17, 2015

| A6 | DIFFERENTIATING VIRUS-DRIVEN FROM HOST DEFENSE IMMUNE RESPONSES IN ACUTE VIRAL-INDUCED CHILDHOOD ASTHMA | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |

#### Monday, May 18, 2015

| B10 | CLINICAL PULMONARY GENOMICS | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |
| B81 | PEDIATRIC YEAR IN REVIEW | 2:15 PM | 4:15 PM |

#### Tuesday, May 19, 2015

| C2 | PEDIATRIC CLINICAL CHEST ROUNDS | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |
| C90 | SEQUELAE OF PREMATURITY | 2:15 PM | 4:15 PM |

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2015

| D87 | PEDIATRIC ARDS | 1:30 PM | 3:30 PM |

### Jointly-Developed Symposium

#### Monday, May 18, 2015

| B11 | AIR POLLUTION: A MAJOR GLOBAL THREAT TO LUNG HEALTH | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |

#### Tuesday, May 19, 2015

| C11 | D’AIR TO BREATHE: AIRBORNE PATHOGENS AND PREVENTION | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |
| C91 | STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS PEDIATRIC ASTHMA DISPARITIES THROUGH CARE COORDINATION | 2:15 PM | 4:15 PM |

### Workshop Sessions

#### Monday, May 18, 2015

| WS3 | PERSONALIZED MEDICINE IN CHILDHOOD ASTHMA | 11:45 AM | 1:15 PM |

#### Tuesday, May 19, 2015

| WS6 | IMPLEMENTING COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH ASTHMA IN THE SCHOOL SETTING | 11:45 AM | 1:15 PM |

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2015

| WS8 | PULMONARY MANAGEMENT OF NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS: WHY, WHAT, WHEN, AND HOW | 11:45 AM | 1:15 PM |

### Sunrise Seminars

#### Monday, May 18, 2015

| SS113 | APPROACH TO THE PATIENT WITH SUSPECTED PRIMARY CILIARY DYSKINESIA | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| SS214 | THE CARE OF RESPIRATORY DISORDERS IN CHILDREN WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2015

| SS314 | PEDIATRIC CENTRAL SLEEP APNEA AND HYPOVENTILATION DISORDER | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
### Meet The Professor Seminars

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

- **MP413**: CURRENT APPROACH TO THE PULMONARY MANAGEMENT OF A PATIENT WITH NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDER  
  - 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

**Monday, May 18, 2015**

- **MP510**: NEXT-GEN SEQUENCING IN THE CLINIC  
  - 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

- **MP611**: INTERPRETATION STRATEGIES FOR PEDIATRIC SPIROMETRY  
  - 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

### Mini-Symposium

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

- **A17**: CYSTIC FIBROSIS: FROM THE LABORATORY TO THE CLINIC  
  - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- **A97**: HIGHLIGHTS OF PEDIATRIC ASTHMA  
  - 2:15 PM - 4:15 PM

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

- **C95**: BEST OF PEDIATRICS  
  - 2:15 PM - 4:15 PM

### Poster Discussion Sessions

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

- **A106**: ASSESSING PEDIATRIC LUNG DISEASE: LUNG FUNCTION AND BEYOND  
  - 2:15 PM - 4:15 PM

**Monday, May 18, 2015**

- **B26**: PEDIATRIC SLEEP: FROM THE HEART TO THE BRAIN  
  - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- **B27**: VIRAL INFECTION AND PEDIATRIC ASTHMA  
  - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

- **C27**: NEONATAL AND PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE  
  - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**Wednesday, May 20, 2015**

- **D23**: PEDIATRIC RARE DISEASES AND LUNG DEVELOPMENT  
  - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- **D24**: PEDIATRIC CASES: FROM THE UNUSUAL TO THE CHALLENGING  
  - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

### Thematic Poster Sessions

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

- **A50**: PEDIATRIC LUNG DISEASE: RISK FACTORS, MANAGEMENT, AND MORE  
  - 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM

**Monday, May 18, 2015**

- **B52**: PEDIATRIC CYSTIC FIBROSIS  
  - 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM
- **B53**: NEW ASPECTS OF PEDIATRIC ASTHMA  
  - 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM
- **B54**: PEDIATRIC DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AND INFECTIONS  
  - 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

- **C56**: LUNG DEVELOPMENT, PULMONARY HYPERTENSION, AND RARE LUNG DISEASES  
  - 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM
- **C57**: NEWS FROM THE NICU AND PICU  
  - 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM

**Wednesday, May 20, 2015**

- **D41**: INTERESTING CASES IN PEDIATRIC PULMONOLOGY  
  - 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
In the last year, the Web committee has continued to concentrate on 3 main efforts: (1) serving as the primary communication for the PED Assembly Executive Committee with a renewed web-driven strategy to better reach our PEDS membership, (2) maintaining the PED Assembly Journal Club with Journal Club co-chairs Ben Kopp and Teng Santiago, and (3) collaborating on launching of VIPPN the international pediatric pulmonary website to be housed within the PED Assembly website with chair of International Relations Enrico Lombardi. We acknowledge our PED members for all their work.

Our Assembly webpage was reorganized and updated according to the new ATS-wide format as of February 2015. Plans are in place to expand our Assembly webpage to content important to our PEDS membership and exploration of social media with Chris Carroll, who will again be live Tweeting his way through the ATS conference.

We will be launching VIPPN Virtual International Pediatric Pulmonary Network website at this ATS conference. We acknowledge the tireless work of Enrico Lombardi, PED IRC Chair, and the editorial committee for meeting at unreasonable hours around the world: Anna Meyer, Ian Balfour-Lynn, Hannah Blau, Nicole Beydon, Bruce Rubin, Anastassios Koumourlis, Hossein Sadeghi, Peter Sly, Renato Stein, Gary Wong, Heather Zar, Robin Deterding, Tom Ferkol.

Under the watch of our Journal Club co-chairs Ben Kopp and Teng Santiago, Year 2 of Journal Club webinars continues to be an overwhelming success. We found the greatest interest in topics of direct clinical relevance and the most support for presentations with an MOC “take home message” addition. We are exploring other interactive alternatives including adding Twitter to our Journal Club webinar presentations. We welcome your feedback and comments on this.

We would like to acknowledge the continued contribution of our PEDS Assembly members for their generous participation in Journal Club in sharing their academic expertise from July 2014 to March 2015: Natalie Shilo, Michael DeBaun, Robert Strunk, Roberta Kato, Manuel Arteta, Steven Rowe, Scott Sagel, Drucy Borowitz, Sonya Heltshe, Daniel Gelfond, Scott Donaldson, Jennifer Wambach, Alicia Casey, Aaron Hamvas, Lawrence Nogee, Robin Deterding, Andrew Bush, Stephanie Davis, Scott Sagel, Michael Knowles, Maimoona Zariwala, Margaret Rosenfeld, Margaret Leigh, Joanne Sordillo, Augusto Litonjua, Seif Shaheen, John McBride, Erika von Mutius. Special acknowledgement goes out to Drs. Scott Sagel and Stephanie Davis for double duty this year, and for Dr. Anastassios Koumourlis, who has participated and attended almost every JC webinar. We would also like to acknowledge fellowship participants who attended as a group, please let us know who you are to earn your bragging rights. We appreciate our members’ support and look forward to input to improve our Journal Club forum.

Based on the membership survey on August 2014, the PEDS Assembly membership has identified more content needs than can be supported by our Web committee. We welcome members’ ideas and encourage active participation in the Web committee to turn these great ideas into web content. The Web committee will be meeting at the ATS conference on Monday May 18, 2015 at 12:00 pm-1:30 pm, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in the Colorado room. Please contact Wan Chong Tsai at wanctsai@gmail.com to join us.
International Relations Committee (IRC)  
Enrico Lombardi, MD

IRC members worked tirelessly to bring a project that began almost 10 years ago to fruition: the Virtual International Pediatric Pulmonary Network (VIPPN), an international web site that will be the "home" for health care providers from all over the world who have an interest in pediatric pulmonology. It will provide a common voice on many issues regarding child lung health as well as function as a central hub where resources and information can be easily accessed by anyone with an internet connection. The site will contain links to pediatric respiratory societies around the globe and will also provide access to global educational, research, training, educational material, case discussions, and advocacy resources. The IRC plans to have the site go live on the ATS Website in May 2015.

Update from Pediatric Education Committee  
Clement Ren, MD

One of the main activities of the PEDs Education Committee has been to develop the Pediatric Core Curriculum at the annual ATS meeting. This series of lectures provides ABP MOC part 2 credit and covers a broad array of topics. We also recently sent out a survey to the membership to identify other educational needs and interests of the membership.

Heading to ATS 2015? Tour Children's Hospital Colorado with Dr. Deterding

During the ATS 2015 International Conference in Denver, the ATS is offering offsite tour options for attendees on Saturday, May 16. One option features a guided tour of the Children's Hospital Colorado by ATS Assembly on Pediatrics Chair Robin R. Deterding, MD, who will show the Breathing Institute, maternal fetal surgical suite, NICU, and the new multidisciplinary clinical space related to the AEROdigestive Program. The tour will depart at 1 p.m. in front of Lobby B (Street Level), Colorado Convention Center, and return before the start of the ATS 2015 Opening Ceremony, and bus service will be provided. A tour ticket costs $35, and may be purchased while registering for ATS 2015 or updating your existing registration. Please note that seating is limited, but tickets may be purchased onsite at Registration in Lobby B (Street Level), Colorado Convention Center.
Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2015 ATS International Conference in Denver

If you’re developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Policy Statement, Research Statement, Clinical Practice Guideline, Workshop Report, or Technical Standards), please consider attending one or more of these free opportunities while you are in Denver at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop: Friday, May 15th from 6-9 PM, Governor’s 14, Concourse Level, Plaza Building, Sheraton Denver Downtown. This session is required for both current and new guideline panel chairs, as well as the chairs of new document projects. The session is recommended for the chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Please RSVP to Katrina Gorres at kgorres@thoracic.org if you have not already done so. The schedule is as follows:
  - 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.

- Guideline methodology training program: All ATS clinical practice guidelines require the support of an experienced methodologist; however, there is a shortage of methodologists from which to derive the support. The ATS has a guideline methodology training program that provides on-the-job training to individuals who are interested in becoming a methodologist. Applications for the training program are available at http://www.thoracic.org/statements/document-development/index.php. An informational session is being held on Monday, May 18th from 7 pm until 8:30 pm at the ATS International Conference for anyone who is interested in learning more about the program. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Kevin C. Wilson, MD, ATS Senior Director of Documents and Medical Affairs at kwilson@thoracic.org. Space is limited.

- Ad Hoc meetings: If your project committee is having a full day, half day, or meal meeting in Denver, you have the opportunity to schedule an appointment for Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor and ATS Senior Director of Documents and Medical Affairs) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist) to stop by your committee meeting to discuss and answer questions about Official ATS Documents. To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or Jan Brozek at brozekj@mcmaster.ca. Please indicate the name of your panel and a range of time that would be appropriate for their visit.

- Office Hours: Stop by our second annual “Office Hours” to meet and talk with Dr. Kevin Wilson and/or Dr. Jan Brozek about any Official ATS Document related matters. Contact John Harmon at jharmon@thoracic.org for dates and times.

ATS Patient Education Resources

- ATS continues to expand its patient education resources - there are currently more than 70 high quality patient oriented fact sheets on a range of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep topics including both common and rare diseases such as COPD, VCD, and HPS; common procedures and diagnostic tests such as sleep studies, lung function studies, and bronchoscopy; and special focus topics including palliative care and lung cancer prevention. These fact sheets are available at no cost via the ATS website at www.thoracic.org under the Patients Tab. See pieces that you like? Feel free to use them in your practice and share them with others! Have new topics you’d like to propose? Contact Judy Corn at jcorn@thoracic.org with your ideas and feedback.
ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

At the 2014 Leadership Summit, assembly leaders voted to establish an ATS Assembly Challenge in support of the ATS Foundation. The Challenge kicked off on #GivingTuesday, on December 2, 2014, a special day worldwide dedicated to the joy of giving, and ran all month long.

Gifts both large and small were received and much appreciated. December giving from assembly members rose from $121,970 in 2013 to $170,974 in 2014—an increase of $49,000! These gifts are greatly meaningful to young investigators at risk of terminating their careers in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. Your generous gifts to the ATS Foundation help launch careers dedicated to scientific discovery and better patient care.

Personal outreach from assembly chairs especially helped drive giving to the ATS Foundation.

“Without member support, amazing programs such as MECOR and young investigator research grants wouldn’t exist. If every ATS member gave even a small donation, even more ground-breaking research and training could be supported,” said Kristin A. Riekert, PhD, chair for the Assembly on Behavioral Science and Health Services Research.

Dr. Riekert sent personal messages to her fellow BSHR members to encourage them to give, and capitalized on the momentum of #GivingTuesday to encourage giving. That outreach made a tremendous difference.

Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, also sent messages to his fellow RCMB members and spurred giving through #GivingTuesday.

“For me the participation of RCMB members in the assembly challenge was very, very meaningful,” said Dr. Kaminski. “The fact that they made the effort and donated (and many did) demonstrated their commitment to our community and to the future of respiratory research.”

There were three ways to win the Challenge: be the assembly with the most dollars raised in 2014, be the assembly with the highest member participation rate, and be the assembly with the largest average gift per member.
Allergy Immunology & Inflammation raised the most dollars in the ATS Assembly Challenge with $63,549. Behavioral Science and Health Services Research had the highest member participation with 20.86%, and the largest average gift per member with $98.27. Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology’s outstanding outreach efforts led to the creation of a brand new award in recognition of having the most first-time givers. Their outreach efforts inspired 26 members to give to the Foundation for the very first time during December alone!

Congratulations to the Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, Behavioral Science and Health Services Research, and Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology assemblies! They will receive special recognition in a number of ATS communications, at ATS 2015, and within their own assemblies.

The ATS Foundation would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their generous support and for rising to the challenge. Your giving is life-changing for young investigators, patients, and communities worldwide. To learn more about the ATS Foundation or to make a gift, visit foundation.thoracic.org.

Assembly on Pediatrics Membership Meeting

Sunday, May 17th
6:30pm-8:30pm

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel

Plaza Ballroom D-E
Concourse Level

Assembly on Pediatrics Dinner

Monday, May 18th
7:00pm-10:00pm

Embassy Suites Denver Downtown

Cripple Creek Ballroom 1-2
Second Floor
Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2016!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2016. 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.

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 Debra M. Boyer, MD at Debra.boyer@childrens.harvard.edu.

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

Help Us 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 HERE. [link is: https://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php]

By keeping your profile current, you help us provide programs and services that are targeted to you, and it also ensures accuracy when you register for the International Conference.

Connect with your ATS assembly on social networks for the latest on journal clubs, webinars, ATS International Conference activities, and much more!

**On Facebook:**
- ATS All Assembly
- ATS SRN Assembly
- ATS MTPI
- ATS Assembly on Thoracic Oncology
- ATS RSF Assembly
- RCMB Assembly of the American Thoracic Society
- ATS Section on Genetics and Genomics
- ATS Environmental, Occupational and Population Health
- Early Faculty/Fellows
- ATS Nursing Assembly

**On Twitter:**
- @ATS_All
- @ATSSRN
- @ATS_MTPL
- @atsoa
- @ATS_RSF
- @PR_Assembly
- @ATS_PC
- @ATSNursing
- @ATS_RCP

Also look for the main ATS social media accounts:
- Twitter: @atscommunity
- Facebook: American Thoracic Society
- Instagram: atscommunity
- LinkedIn: American Thoracic Society
Refer a Fellow to the ATS!

Do you know a Fellow who could benefit from ATS membership? Nearly 20 per cent of ATS members are currently in training, and many ATS leaders joined as Fellows too. And there’s a BONUS! ATS Trainee Members receive their first year of membership for FREE! After the first year, trainee member dues are just $100 per year for US members, and $40 per year for international members, as long as the member is still in training. Read what Trainee members say about the value of membership:

*ATS membership helps you to keep up-to-date with innovations in pulmonary medicine with access to journals, publications, guidelines and the Fellows corner.*

Ajay Kasi, California

*The ATS membership is the best option to participate in the world’s biggest thoracic society, be an important part of scientific exchange and access the best scientific publications.*

Adrian Ceccato, Argentina

*My membership gives me the opportunity to expand my knowledge on pulmonary diseases in general and in interstitial lung diseases in particular through news, e-mails, journals, special learning opportunities (like the ILD video series) and the annual meeting.*

Sandra Chartrand, Canada

Enter the BEAR Cage

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the BEAR Cage (Building Education to Advance Research) competition was open to all ATS members who are early career investigators. Applicants were asked to submit an innovative clinical or translational research proposal for consideration and the opportunity to participate in the live BEAR Cage at ATS 2015. You are invited to join us at the Science and Innovation Center to see the selected top three finalists competitively “pitch” their highly innovative research proposals to a panel of translational science experts representing academia, industry, and governmental sectors in front of a live audience. The panel, with audience participation, will vet the proposals with each presenter and ultimately award a grand prize winner a $5,000 prize as well as two runner-up proposals, each receiving $2,500. The goal of this unique event is to promote productive discussion of these innovative research ideas in the setting of a fun, yet competitive forum promoting opportunities for collaboration, mentorship, and improvement of the research proposal. To build on this concept, a DDDD committee-sponsored “project advisory team” will provide feedback and distance mentorship to the awardees over the ensuing year.