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Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear RCMB friends

It is hard to believe that close to two years have past since I took over as assembly chair and now, as I am starting to plan the transition to the next assembly chair, it is my pleasure to present you the newsletter of our assembly, describing the progress, many achievements and exciting opportunities to participate.

RCMB is the home for MD and PhD researchers and trainees who study cellular and molecular and systems biology of lung cell function through development, health, aging and disease with specific focus on translational lung biology. At RCMB, we strive to develop programs and initiatives designed to address the needs of our memberships, to look for new ways to disseminate the exciting progress in respiratory cell and molecular and systems biology, and to provide education and mentoring to trainees and junior faculty focusing on research. More importantly, we at RCMB recognize that creating a community of peers is critically important for all us. When times are tough and funding is tight, advice, appreciation, shared information or reagents have are needed. Success, discovery and recognition, so common among our members, are also best celebrated among peers, colleagues and friends.

In the last few years we have made a unique effort to create a sense of community among our members, to make RCMB really our scientific home with innovative and exciting programs. Our [early career professional working group](#) (led by Drs. Rebecca Keith & Anna Lam), has been very active. The first ever, joint AII-RCMB assembly reception in 2015 was a great success and we will repeat the same format with many exciting activities in 2016. Our Mentoring Program is among of the largest programs in ATS, and our partnership with Science and Innovation Center continues to generate innovative programs and exciting initiatives. Our [web committee](#) (led by Dr. S. Vamsee Raju) continued to seek ways to enhance membership engagement through novel initiatives including on-line journal clubs, live tweeter feeds from conferences and most recently podcasts with research and science leaders (those can be found on the ATS podcast page (<http://www.thoracic.org/about/ats-podcasts/index.php>) and on the [RCMB website](#). Although RCMB is

(Continued on page 2)



Naftali Kaminski, MD

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (Continued)

is traditionally not involved in recommendations regarding clinical practice, our [Stem Cell Working Group](#) (led by Dr. Robert Freishtat) has led a significant campaign to highlight the dangers of unproven Stem Cell interventions for lung disease (see the statement <http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/rcmb/working-groups/stem-cell/resources/statement-on-unproven-stem-cell-interventions-for-lung-diseases.pdf>). Our [Program Committee](#) (led by Dr. Patricia Sime) handled a record number of abstracts, and created a fascinating program that highlights the best in RCMB science. Our [Planning Committee](#) (led by Dr. Carol Feghali-Bostwick) has [demystified](#) the project application process, which resulted in an unprecedented number of projects submitted and approved. Our [Nominating Committee](#) (led by Dr. Erica Herzog) identified an outstanding roster of candidates for RCMB leadership. All other committees and working groups have also been very active and I encourage all of you to read their reports below. When you read the reports I would like to think about becoming involved. Regardless if you are a trainee, a junior researcher or an established leader, it is never too early or too late to join a committee or a working group! The best way to get involved is to contact the Assembly Chair.

For me, being a member of the RCMB assembly has always been very important. This is where I started creating my community of peers, where I exchanged ideas, got the first opportunities to present my results and even got job offers. I have also been very proud to be a member of an assembly whose members are extremely dedicated to science, are regularly among those recognized by the ATS for their scientific excellence, and are the poll bearers of translational and experimental lung biology. In the last two years I was in particular proud because RCMB membership demonstrated its support for the ATS research program. In 2014 our assembly won the ATS Foundation Challenge in the category of [most new donors](#), and in 2015 our members won the ATS Foundation Challenge in [two categories](#), most new donors and the largest amount of money donated for research (see results <http://foundation.thoracic.org/images/2015-assembly-challenge-results.jpg>). This is very impressive considering that a) we are not the largest assembly b) our members our relatively young (a third are below the age of forty) and c) our members our mostly researchers whose income is lower. For me this was a great example of the team spirit, engagement and commitment to research of our members and I thank you all for that.

In preparation for my '2014-2016 RCMB Assembly Chair Report' at ATS Board Meeting in February 2016 I had the opportunity to look at RCMB by both activities and numbers and what I saw was very exciting. Our committees and working groups are energetic, engaged and innovative, our membership is young, diverse and global with a strong mix of trainees, emerging and established researchers. Our members in all ranks are recognized for excellence in the ATS, as well as other forums, and we have formidable pipeline for our leadership. This made me very optimistic about the future of RCMB, and more importantly, about the future of translational lung biology. It has also made me very grateful for the opportunity to serve this amazing organization, a unique community of MD and PHD researchers and scholars. I would like to thank all of the members of the Executive Committee who were my partners in the last two years, their commitment, leadership and generosity with time and initiative made serving as chair of RCMB a joyful experience.

In May, I will end my term as RCMB Assembly chair and my friend and colleague, Dr. Irina Petrache, will take over. She is an outstanding, accomplished and very committed leader and I have no doubt that RCMB will continue its success. The change at helm happens at the Assembly Membership Meeting in San Francisco and I look forward to meeting all of you there. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments or suggestions (e-mail Naftali.kaminski@yale.edu, twitter handle @KaminskiMed).

Update from Planning Committee Chair

Carol Feghali-Bostwick, PhD

The RCMB Planning Committee sets the long-term strategy of the Assembly through the development of specific projects and overseeing several working groups submitted and run by ATS members.

The committee is chaired by Carol Feghali-Bostwick, PhD, and the committee membership is available on our website. Assembly project proposals submitted in July are first reviewed and ranked by the Planning Committee in August. This review is available to the applicant prior to final submission in August. This year, the Planning Committee reviewed ten new project proposals and two renewals. Of the 12 project proposals, five new projects and two renewal were approved by the ATS Program Review Sub-committee, for a 58% overall approval.

Project proposals are due in late July, 2016. Instructions for submission are found on the ATS website. Tips for preparing a successful assembly project proposal can be found at <http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/rcmb/working-groups/planning-committee/project-proposal.php>

New Projects:

- Standards for the Use of Animal Models For the Pre-clinical assessment of Anti-Fibrotic Therapies-- Richard Gisli Jenkins, BM, MD, MRCP(UK), PhD (RCMB primary)
- Workshop Statement on Translational Research in Rare Lung Diseases --Arnold S. Kristof, MD (RCMB Primary)
- Stem Cells, Cell Therapies, and Engineering in Lung Biology and Diseases: Official ATS conference report --Daniel J. Weiss, MD, PhD (RCMB primary)
- New Strategies and Challenges in Lung Proteomics and Metabolomics-- Christine H. Wendt, MD (RCMB Primary)
- Standards for evaluating molecular biomarkers of lung cancer risk, early detection, and lung nodule management: When is the biomarker ready for clinical use? --Peter J. Mazzone, MPH, MD (TO Primary)

Update from Program Committee Chair

Patricia J. Sime, MD, FRCP, Chair and Karen Ridge, PhD, Chair-Elect

The annual American Thoracic Society meeting is one of the highlights of the academic year for the members of the RCMB and other ATS assemblies. It is the goal of the RCMB Program Committee to help bring cutting edge basic and translational science to our membership.

Ever year the Program Committee (currently chaired by Patricia Sime and co-chaired by Karen Ridge) reviews, grades, collates and develops all of the symposia, abstract sessions, post-graduate courses, Meet the Professor sessions, Workshops and Sunrise Seminars. The committee comprises 30 members from around the world who have worked with tremendous dedication and collegiality to build a diverse and exciting program for ATS 2016. This year there were some changes to Programming including the abstract submission categories across ATS with a goal of increasing cross assembly interactions and programming. We were delighted to work closely with colleagues in other assemblies including AII, RSF, CP and CC in help attain this goal.

Update from Program Committee Chair (Cont')

This was a record-breaking and exciting year for our membership. We received over 800 abstracts; approximately double the number from last year. We programmed over 650 of those in RCMB sessions and found the best homes for the remainder. These abstracts we programmed were programmed into 4 Mini Symposia, 6 Poster Discussion Sessions, and 22 Thematic Poster Sessions. We were also delighted by the submission of many excellent proposals for major symposia (some of these shared with other assemblies). Ultimately we were able to program 5 RCMB major symposia, with additional 3 symposia shared jointly with other assemblies, 3 Meet the Professor sessions, 3 Sunrise Seminars, one Post Graduate Course and one Workshop.

This year's "Basic Science Core Topic" is Gene Expression: Beyond transcription with a focus on novel mechanisms of regulation of gene expression, such as epigenetics, microRNAs, lncRNAs, post translational modifications, systems biology and precision medicine in lung development and disease. We are particularly excited to invite you all to the Scientific Breakthrough of the Year Session entitled "Scientific breakthroughs in RNA biology: What's new, exciting and therapeutic". Don't miss it on Tuesday May 17th, 2:15-4:15PM, Room 2009/2011 (West Building, Level 2), MOSCONE CENTER. Really exciting presentations, and we will all be there!

We encourage you to be part of shaping the RCMB Program for 2017 and beyond. The call for proposals for Scientific Symposia, PG courses, Sunrise Seminars and Meet the Professor Sessions for ATS 2017 begins in July 2016. Please consider submitting ideas. The Program chairs and committee are always available and happy to offer suggestions before final submission. Please also consider resubmission of revised proposals from this year. We can assist with feedback from the prior committee reviews.

New members for the Program Committee and new chairs and facilitators for the sessions are important to sustaining a vibrant and inclusive ATS meeting, and we welcome contributions from enthusiastic members. Please contact the incoming chair, Karen Ridge (kridge@northwestern.edu) who will maintain a list of interested individuals. The Program committee for 2017 has been finalized but there are approximately 10 new positions available every year.

We look forward to welcoming you to ATS 2016 and to an energizing and enjoyable meeting. Thank you to you all for your many contributions.

ATS 2016 - San Francisco Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Friday, May 13, 2016			
PG10	AIRWAY REMODELING IN HUMAN LUNG DISEASE: A BIG LAB MEETING 2016	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A7	ATS MYTHBUSTER: REVERSING FIBROSIS IN THE LUNGS IS BIOLOGICAL MISSION (IM)POSSIBLE	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A90	ABNORMAL METABOLISM: EMERGING CONCEPTS IN UNDERSTANDING LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B5	HARNESSING BREAKTHROUGHS IN CRISPR GENE EDITING TECHNOLOGY FOR RESEARCH AND THERAPY	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C8	BREACHING BARRIERS: TARGETED DELIVERY OF THERAPEUTICS TO THE LUNG	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Wednesday, May 18, 2016			
D8	ATS MYTHBUSTERS: ABERRANT TISSUE REGENERATION IS A PRIMARY DRIVER OF COPD PATHOGENESIS	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Jointly-Developed Symposium			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A5	UNDERSTANDING LUNG DISEASE PHENOTYPES: NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS BIOLOGY	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A85	MOVING TOWARD PRECISION MEDICINE FOR LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A91	HOT TOPICS IN DISPARITIES IN PULMONARY, CRITICAL CARE AND SLEEP MEDICINE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B85	LUNGS CAN TELL TIME: CLOCK GENES, INFLAMMATION, IMMUNOLOGY AND SLEEP	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C85	SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS IN RNA BIOLOGY: WHAT'S NEW, EXCITING AND THERAPEUTIC!	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 18, 2016			
D11	ARDS AND INFLAMMATORY INJURY	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Workshop Sessions			
Monday, May 16, 2016			
WS4	PATIENT-DERIVED MODELS OF HUMAN LUNG DISEASE: A LAB MEETING	11:45 AM	1:15 PM
Sunrise Seminars			
Monday, May 16, 2016			
SS118	MATRIX BASICS: UNDERSTANDING COLLAGEN PROCESSING AND SECRETION	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
SS216	OPTIMIZATION OF THE 3D IN VITRO ASSAY TO STUDY LUNG STEM/PROGENITOR CELLS	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
Wednesday, May 18, 2016			
SS316	"MIND THE GAP": USE OF NATIVE TISSUE SLICES AND DECELLULARIZED HUMAN MATRICES AS EX VIVO MODELS OF REGENERATION AND DISEASE	6:45 AM	7:45 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
MP414	FIRESTARTER: UNDERSTANDING HOW HOUSEHOLD AIR POLLUTION CAUSES LUNG DISEASES	12:15 PM	1:15 PM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Monday, May 16, 2016			
MP515	NEW ROLES FOR APOLIPOPROTEINS IN THE PATHOGENESIS AND TREATMENT OF ASTHMA	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
MP614	DAY/NIGHT AND CLOCK IN LUNG PATHOPHYSIOLOGY	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposium			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A97	ROLE OF AGING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF LUNG DISEASE(S)	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B97	MITOCHONDRIA DYSFUNCTION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C17	FASCINATING MECHANISMS IN LUNG FIBROSIS	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Wednesday, May 18, 2016			
D96	DAMAGING EFFECTS OF INHALED PARTICULATES	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A108	MICRO RNAS, RNA SEQ, LNCRNA: BIOLOGY AND FUNCTION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B28	ADVANCES IN STEM CELLS IN INJURY AND REPAIR FOR 2016	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
B110	NOVEL THERAPIES AND TARGETS IN FIBROSIS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C29	PROTECTORS OF THE LUNG: INNATE IMMUNE RESPONSES IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
C107	IMMUNITY, EXACERBATION AND IMMUNE CELL FUNCTION IN COPD	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 18, 2016			
D27	MACROPHAGES: RESOLVERS, RESPONDERS OR BOTH?	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 15, 2016			
A70	THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY OF AGING	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A71	EPIGENETICS	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A72	MECHANISMS OF LUNG CANCER BIOLOGY	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A73	LUNG FIBROSIS: NEW DIRECTIONS TO INFORM THE FUTURE	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A74	MATRIX: DRIVERS AND TARGETS	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A75	STEM CELLS	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A76	LAM: NEW BIOLOGY AND NEW INSIGHTS	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 16, 2016			
B57	FIBROSIS BIOLOGY	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B58	BIG AND BIGGER (DATA): OMICS AND BIOMARKERS OF COPD AND OTHER CHRONIC LUNG DISEASES	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B59	NOVEL GENES AND GENE EFFECTS IN COPD	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B60	SMOKING AND PARTICULATES IMPACT ON LUNG HEALTH	9:00 AM	4:15 PM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
B61	FIBROBLASTS AND MATRIX IN COPD	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B62	THE BIOLOGY OF SCARRING. WHERE ARE WE NOW	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 17, 2016			
C67	ACUTE LUNG INJURY	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C68	IMMUNE CELL INTERACTIONS IN COPD	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C69	HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU: IMAGING STUDIES IN COPD	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C70	THE NEXT NEW THERAPEUTIC TARGET? TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES OF COPD THERAPIES	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C71	YOU ARE WHAT YOU BREATHE: AIRWAY CELL BIOLOGY IN COPD	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C72	EPITHELIAL BIOLOGY	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C73	OXIDANTS	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C74	MODELS AND METHODS IN LUNG BIOLOGY	9:00 AM	4:15 PM

Update from Web Director

Vamsee Raju, MD

RCMB Website Committee serves as a conduit for communication between the Assembly leadership and membership by facilitating interactions and the dissemination of information. Over the past year, we have continued to leverage our successful RCMB Assembly Twitter feed (@ATS_RCMB) for day-to-day interactions between members of the scientific community to discuss topics of interest, and share thoughts and ideas with friends and to initiate and execute additional programs such as Journal Club discussions and informative podcasts. As of today, 262 pulmonary physicians, scientists, working groups and foundations have subscribed to our tweets and many more are observed to follow (and comment on) the RCMB feed. This number of subscribed ‘followers’ has increased by 140 new members in the last one year and continues to draw young and upcoming professionals to RCMB.

Twitter feed has enabled to generate ideas for Journal Club (JC) discussions and identify articles of interest, presenting authors (early career professionals and first authors) and invited expert discussants including senior authors to participate in informal discussions. While the JC presentations have been via Webex, “live tweets” have allowed lively conversation and additional insights and questions. We thank Dr. Brian Southern for moderating a widely attended presentation by Dr. Neil Ahluwalia from Vertex Pharmaceuticals and the Massachusetts General Hospital based on his recent article *Fibrogenic Lung Injury Induces Non-Cell-Autonomous Fibroblast Invasion*, in *AJRCMB*. They were joined by the senior author Dr. Andrew Tager and invited discussion panelist Dr. Dianhua Jiang. We are grateful to the Stem Cell Working Group and Dr. Laertis Ikonou from The Center for Regenerative Medicine (CReM) at Boston University for the discussion on unproven stem cell interventions for respiratory diseases entitled “*Stem Cell Tourism: the perils of unregulated stem cell treatments for respiratory diseases*”. This presentation was based on a recently published article “Responsibilities of Health Care Professionals in Counseling and Educating Patients With Incurable Neurological Diseases” in *JAMA Neurology*. We are also appreciative of moderator Dr. Angela Panoskaltis-Mortari and invited panelists Dr. Dan Weiss and Dr. Massimo Dominici. In the upcoming months, we hope to have journal clubs discussing papers chosen by the different working groups within the RCMB Assembly. We anticipate that these journal clubs will move forward on a bi-monthly basis. We welcome suggestions and participation from members of the RCMB Assembly.

Update from Web Director (Cont')

We are immensely grateful to Dr. Maor Sauler from Yale University School of Medicine for his enthusiastic and insightful interviews that were published as Podcasts. Dr. Augustine Choi from Weill Cornell Medical College and a world-renowned expert of Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (COPD) discussed with Dr. Sauler the evolution of our understanding of COPD, highlighting the recent advances and changing concepts. He also discussed his own seminal contributions to the field and conjectures about the future of COPD research, and shared advice to trainees and junior investigators. You can find the podcast [here](#). In an interview with Dr. Maor Sauler, Dr. Cara Gottardi from Feinberg School of Medicine discussed the relevance of cell-cell adhesions to the biological basis of lung disease. She also discusses her recent work examining a less-well-known member of the catenin family, alpha-T-catenin, and its role in asthma. You can listen to the discussion [here](#). These and other archived content can be accessed from Assembly webpage or [here](#).

We encourage all of our members to follow us @ATS_RCMB and would like to remind you to live tweet at the ATS conference – if you hear or see something that may be of interest to RCMB membership please mention our handle @ATS_RCMB or use the hashtag #RCMB2016. Also, if you are interested about social media, would like to learn more, or simply to meet some of the leaders in our community, please plan to attend the workshop titled: To Tweet or not to Tweet: Social Media in Health Care and Education. Tuesday 11:45AM-01:15PM, Room 302 (South Building, Esplanade Level). MOSCONE CENTER. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, or if you are interested in serving as a member of the RCMB Website Committee, please don't hesitate to contact me at: svraju@uab.edu.



Meet Your Mentor HERE!

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2016 ATS International Conference in San Francisco, the Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentees to meet.

The Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot will be located in the San Francisco Marriott Marquis Hotel in the Willow room on the B2 Level of the Hotel. The room will be available:

Friday May 13th – Tuesday May 17th, 2015 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday May 18th from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Light snacks and beverages will be offered throughout the day. Also in the room there will be laptops and printers available for use. You can also pick up your Assembly Mentoring Program ribbon and pin!

We hope you can join us at the Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot!

Interested in joining a mentoring program? Visit the Assemblies homepage and click on [ATS Mentoring](#)

***Assembly on Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology
Membership Meeting***

***Monday, May 16th
5:00pm-7:00pm
San Francisco Marriott Marquis***

***Golden Gate B
B2 Level***

***Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology
&
Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation
Reception/ Dinner***

***Monday, May 16th
7:00pm-10:00pm***

***San Francisco Marriott Marquis - Golden Gate C
B2 Level***

Patient Education Materials Available at the 2016 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 topics including: Bronchoscopy, Pneumonia, Mechanical Ventilation, Oxygen Therapy, Asthma, COPD, PFTs, Sleep Testing, Lung Cancer, COPD, VCD, and Palliative Care.

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 and can be provided upon request in alternative formats for EMR systems. Stop by the ATS Center in San Francisco to view copies of these materials. Contact Judy Corn, ATS Staff, at jcorn@thoracic.org for additional information.

ANNOUNCING ATS FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM AWARDEES

The ATS Foundation is pleased to announce the grant and award recipients for the 2015-2016 grant cycle. The support of our members, donors, and partners helps make these awards possible—thank you! These grants and awards support research encompassing pulmonary, critical care, and sleep illnesses. In addition, they provide crucial support for early stage investigators from around the world. To see the awardees please click here. (<http://foundation.thoracic.org/what-we-do/2015-research-awardees.php>)

Deadline for Letters of Intent to be submitted: **June 20th, 2016**



ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

Thank you for participating in the [2015 ATS Assembly Challenge](#) in support of the [ATS Foundation Research Program](#)!

The Research Program has been outstandingly successful in launching careers dedicated to scientific discovery and better patient care. Member gifts also support core ATS mission-related programs including MECOR, Medical Education Research, the Ziskind Clinical Research Scholar Award, and Assembly Awards and Scholarships.



DorAnne M. Donesky, PhD, ANP-BC, chair for the Assembly on Nursing, receives Nursing's 2015 ATS Assembly Challenge award from Atul Malhotra, MD, ATS President (left) and James F. Donohue, MD, ATS Foundation Chair (right)



Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, receives RCMB's 2015 ATS Assembly Challenge awards from James F. Donohue, MD, ATS Foundation Chair

Gifts both large and small were received—and much appreciated—throughout the Assembly Challenge. **Thank you!**

Many assembly chairs sent personal messages to their members to encourage giving to the Foundation during the challenge. That outreach provided a big boost to Foundation year-end giving campaigns—and a boost to our upcoming grant-making capacity for young investigators.

Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, hopes the challenge will continue to “ignite a healthy competition among the assemblies, and that next year we will see a dramatic rise in donations and new donors from all assemblies. This will have a great impact on the availability of research funds, and on pulmonary research and medicine.”

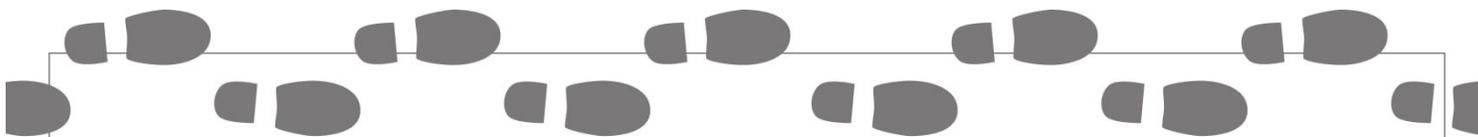
The ATS Foundation would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their outreach efforts and generosity during the 2015 ATS Assembly Challenge.

- **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology** raised the most dollars with \$95,741
- **Nursing** had the highest member participation with 17.46%
- **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology** had the highest number of first-time givers in December with 37 new donors

Congratulations to the Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology and Nursing assemblies! They will receive special recognition in ATS communications, at ATS 2016, and within their own assemblies.

Thank you for everything that you do for the ATS Foundation, young investigators and clinicians, patients, and respiratory health worldwide.

To learn more about the ATS Foundation or to make a gift, visit foundation.thoracic.org.



First Annual ATS Walking Challenge

*Think you walk a lot at an ATS conference?
Let's see how you compare to other attendees.*

Step up to the First Annual ATS Walking Challenge.

Every step helps raise money for the ATS Foundation. Walk around the Exhibit Hall, meet new people, move from session to session and engage in friendly competition against other attendees with the ATS Walking Challenge. The top 3 overall steppers win a prize. Watch it all unfold in real-time on leaderboards in the Teva Respiratory booth #419 or at the ATS Walking Challenge booth.

The first 2,000 registrants receive a free ATS wireless activity tracker to use with the ATS Walking Challenge Mobile App (distributed on a 'first-come, first-served' basis). The ATS Walking Challenge Mobile App also supports attendees that prefer to use their own FitBit, Jawbone or iPhone/Android smart phone step counters.

The three individuals who log the most steps will win prizes!

- **Grand Prize** – Microsoft Surface Pro 3
- **2nd prize** – Fitbit Surge
- **3rd prize** – Zolt Laptop Charger Plus

Visit the Teva Respiratory booth #419 each day for a step booster.

Use the Walking Challenge mobile app to scan the QR code booster each day to earn your bonus steps. The more you visit, the more you receive:

First Day Visit - 500 steps
Second Day Visit - 750 steps
Third Day Visit - 1,000 steps

Walk for a good cause! For every participant who walks 30,000 steps, Teva Respiratory will make a donation of \$100 to the ATS Foundation, for a total maximum donation of \$50,000. Remember - 100% of all donations to the ATS Foundation fund new research awards. Learn more at Foundation.Thoracic.org.

Learn more and pre-register online at cloud.hekahealth.com/ats2016 or stop by the Walking Challenge Booth in the South building lobby of the Moscone Center, beginning 5/13/16.

Sponsored by:



Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2016 ATS International Conference in San Francisco

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 free opportunities while you are in San Francisco at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop/Meeting: Friday, May 13th from 6-9 PM, San Francisco Marriott Marquis.
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 if you have not already done so.
- 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: If your project committee is having a meeting in San Francisco, you have the opportunity to schedule an appointment for Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist) to stop by your committee meeting. To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or Jan Brozek at brozekj@mcmaster.ca.
- Office Hours and Documents Meeting Space: Stop by our 4th annual “Office Hours” to meet and talk with Drs. Kevin Wilson and Jan Brozek about document-related matters. Contact Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or cell 617/771-6589 to secure an appointment. The Documents meeting space will also be available to document developers when office hours are not in session from Sunday-Wednesday; contact Kimberly Lawrence at klawrence@thoracic.org for additional details.

The Science & Innovation Center Sunday, May 15 – Tuesday, May 17: 7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Moscone Center Lobby (West Building, Level 1)

The Science & Innovation Center is a forum where scientists and researchers can relax, network, and learn. Here are selected SIC events you may enjoy:

SIC 101

Learn the basic principles underpinning high profile symposia at ATS 2016.



Sun, May 15	Mon, May 16
CRISPR 7:15 – 8 a.m. Tushar Menon , PhD	Lineage Tracing 7:15 – 8 a.m. Andrew Lechner , MD/PhD Candidate
Clock Genes 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m. Jeff Haspel , MD, PhD	Metabolic Reprogramming 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m. Kurt Stenmark , MD

Keynote Lecture Viewings

Sun, May 15 – Tues, May 17, 8 – 8:45 a.m.

Watch the Keynote Lecture Series via a live closed-circuit broadcast in a low-key environment.

Rising Stars of Research

Sun, May 15 – Mon, May 16, 1:15 – 3 p.m.

Early career professionals making waves in their fields. Each Rising Star will give a 15-minute presentation with Q&A at the end of the session.

NHLBI and NIAID Presentations

Tues, May 17, 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Meet representatives of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Breakfast 7 a.m. • Light lunch 12 p.m. • Informal networking and rest area all day

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2017!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2017. 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 Oliver Eickelberg, MD at oliver.eickelberg@helmholtz-muenchen.de.

For questions regarding submission please contact Miriam Rodriguez at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: mrodriguez@thoracic.org.

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 [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 most targeted to you.

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!** Link: <http://www.thoracic.org/members/membership/>

*Trainee members receive 30% and Affiliate members 10%

2nd Annual ★ BEAR Cage



Attend the BEAR Cage

(Building Education to Advance Research)

Sunday, May 15, 2016 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Moscone Center, Room 105 (South Building, Lower Level)

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the 2nd Annual 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 2016. You are invited to join us 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.

Follow **#ATS2016** for the latest updates during the ATS 2016 International Conference.



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