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Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear RCMB Friends,

It is with excitement that I present to you updates on the activities, initiatives, and activities of the Assembly on Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB).

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. The Assembly is a portal to the greater ATS, and a platform to communicate with peers who share similar interests, to present your scientific achievements and learn new ideas, to mentor and be mentored by colleagues who reside in different parts of the world, and to find opportunities for service and career advancement.

At RCMB, we strive to develop programs and initiatives designed to address the needs of our members, 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.

In the last few years, we have made a unique effort to create a sense of community among our members, and to make RCMB our scientific home with innovative and exciting programs. Many of our colleagues on the RCMB executive committee are highlighted in this newsletter in honor of their outstanding service for which I am profoundly thankful:

- **Karen Ridge, PhD** and **Patty Lee, MD** chaired the **Program Committee** to carefully review and skillfully program the abstracts and symposia sessions you submitted for the International Conference;
- **Vamsee Raju, BPharm PhD** directed the **Website Committee** to continuously improve its content and hosted well-received journal clubs and podcasts. He is handing over the important responsibility of website director to **Maor Sauler, MD**;
- **Scott Randell, PhD** – who represents the **Bioengineered Airway Working Group** – not only took charge of planning the activities of the Science and Innovation Center, but also is actively representing RCMB at the newly formed PhD Committee, where he will be joined by **Karen Ridge, PhD** to improve the experience of PhD and other non-clinicians at ATS;
- **Oliver Eickelberg, MD** led the Planning Committee in reviewing projects and proposals to advance the Assembly’s mission in the years to come;



Irina Petrache, MD

(Continued on page 2)

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (*Continued*)

- **Naftali Kaminski, MD** – our immediate past Assembly chair – led the **Nominating Committee** to identifying talented and passionate members to pass the torch of the Assembly leadership to. He and **Melanie Koenigshoff, MD** have also led the **Science Core** for our assembly;
- Our working groups have been led by **Russell Bowler, MD PhD** and **Christine Wendt, MD** (Proteomics and Metabolomics) **Robert J. Freishtat, MD MPH** (Stem Cell), **Scott Budinger** (Lung Aging), and **Rebecca Keith, MD** (Early Career Professionals);
- We have also recently welcomed **Arshad Rahman, PhD** – who will be the **RCMB liaison with the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology** – and **Francesca Polverini, MD** who is the appointed junior faculty ad hoc member. These appointees help serve recent ATS initiatives of establishing and strengthening new international collaborations and facilitating early involvement of junior members of ATS committees, respectively.

The following brief reports from our executive committee members are meant to keep you updated with our activities and to stimulate your participation in providing input to improving our Assembly. Your participation is needed and encouraged; you can start by contacting the Assembly Chair – or any of our executive committee members – and by attending our business meeting at the International Conference.

I am proud of all our members' commitment to scientific excellence, as demonstrated by the superb work submitted to the International Conference, commitment to foster junior members careers (as attested by your support of the RCMB/AII reception and the mentoring program), and commitment to the future of science (as indicated by your generous financial contributions to the Foundation). I am proud that **we have raised the most dollars in support of the Foundation** this year! This is the third consecutive year that we show our passion and commitment for the future of science in ATS by winning the ATS Foundation Challenge in the category of either most new and/or the largest amount of money donated for research. RCMB is not the most populous, but it is clearly the mightiest of the Assemblies!

Enjoy the newsletter content, and look forward to seeing you all in May at the International Conference in Washington, DC. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments or suggestions (Email: PetraChelI@NJHealth.org or Twitter: [@IrinaPetraChelMD](https://twitter.com/IrinaPetraChelMD)).

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Co-chairs: Karen Ridge, PhD and Patty Lee, MD

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.

Every year the Program Committee reviews, grades, collates and develops all of the Major and Mini Scientific Symposia, Poster-discussion and Thematic 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 2017. We continued this year by programming abstracts based on category rather than by the assembly to which they were submitted. The purpose behind this was to increase cross assembly interactions and programming. We were privileged to work closely with colleagues in other assemblies including AII, RSF, EOPH, PEDS, and CC in help attain this goal.

This year we received over ~700 abstracts; slightly less than last year's number. These abstracts were programmed into 5 Mini Symposia, 6 Poster Discussion Sessions, and 19 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, 1 Meet the Professor sessions, 2 Sunrise Seminars, one Post Graduate Course and one Workshop. This year's "Basic Science Core Topic" is *Lung Environment Interactions in the Origins of Lung Disease* with a focus on how environmental conditions, such as air pollution, impact lung development, health and disease. One Major Symposia from our assembly was selected for the Science Core. RCMB was also fortunate program the "Scientific Breakthrough Session" entitled *Regulation of the Stress Response in Lung Disease*.

Over 100 colleagues agreed to help in chairing sessions, serving as featured speakers, or as facilitators at this year's thematic poster sessions. We invited a mix of junior and more established colleagues in most sessions with broad international representation. On average, we invited one facilitator for 8 abstracts in the thematic poster sessions to ensure that each presenter will have ample opportunity to interact with experts in the field and that the facilitators have manageable commitments

We encourage you to be part of shaping the RCMB Program for 2018 and beyond. The call for proposals for Scientific Symposia, PG courses, Sunrise Seminars and Meet the Professor Sessions for ATS 2017 begins in July 2017; however, developing collaborative approaches could begin at 2017 ATS Meeting! 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, Patty Lee (patty.lee@yale.edu) who will maintain a list of interested individuals. The Program committee for 2018 has been finalized but there are approximately 10 new positions available every year.

Lastly, Patty and I would like to thank the Program Committee Members and the ATS-IC staff. Collectively, they have done an outstanding job coordinating this year's meeting. We especially appreciated the patience, expertise, experience, guidance, and dedication of ATS-IC staff!

We look forward to welcoming you to ATS 2017 and to an energizing and enjoyable meeting. Thank you to you all for your many contributions.

ATS 2017 - WASHINGTON, DC SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON RESPIRATORY CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Saturday, May 20, 2017			
PG20	THE HALLMARKS OF AGING IN THE LUNG	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposia			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A87	ATS MYTHBUSTERS: ONE OME TO RULE THEM ALL: WE WILL FIND A COMMON PRIME MOVER FOR PULMONARY FIBROSIS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B11	THE LUNG ENDOTHELIUM PRO/CON SESSION: THE KEY CULPRIT IN CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B85	ENVIRONMENT AND LUNG AGING: AN ECOLOGICAL MODEL	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C9	MITOCHONDRIA BIOGENESIS AND DYSFUNCTION IN PULMONARY DISEASES	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D9	SCIENTIFIC PROMISE AND TRANSLATIONAL CHALLENGES IN LUNG REGENERATIVE MEDICINE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Jointly-Developed Symposia			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A5	DOHAD: DEVELOPMENTAL ORIGINS OF HEALTH AND DISEASE AND THE CIRCLE OF LIFE FOR LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM

ATS 2017 - WASHINGTON, DC

SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON RESPIRATORY CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Jointly-Developed Symposia			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A85	THE EXPOSOME CONCEPT: UNDERSTANDING IMPACT ON LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A91	CATCHING FIRE: THE GLOBAL HEALTH ISSUE OF HOUSEHOLD AIR POLLUTION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C11	POLLUTION EFFECTS ON THE EPIGENOME IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C85	SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS: REGULATION OF THE STRESS RESPONSE IN LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Sunrise Seminars			
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
SS215	MECHANOTRANSDUCTION IN LUNG DISEASE	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
SS315	(RE)-BUILDING LUNGS FOR TRANSPLANTATION: ADVANCES AND CHALLENGES IN WHOLE ORGAN BIOENGINEERING	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
MP612	IN VITRO AND IN VIVO EXPOSURES TO EMERGING TOBACCO PRODUCTS: RESEARCH TO REGULATORY SCIENCE	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposia			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A97	MOLECULAR TARGETS AND PATHWAYS IN AGING	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B19	HOST RESPONSES TO INFLUENZA	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B97	FLIPPING THE SWITCH: DETERMINANTS OF FIBROSIS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D18	WHO DOES WHAT IN COPD: THE CELLULAR ORIGINS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
D97	IMPACT OF INFLAMMATION ON ACUTE LUNG INJURY	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D28	THE WEB OF OMICS: DNA, RNA, AND PROTEIN MODIFICATIONS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
RAPiD: Rapid Abstract Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A28	EXOSOMES AND MICRORNA	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B29	AUTOPHAGY: MECHANISMS AND THERAPEUTIC OPPORTUNITIES	9:15 AM	11:15 AM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
RAPiD: Rapid Abstract Poster Discussion Sessions			
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C28	FROM TARGETS TO THERAPIES IN FIBROSIS	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C107	MITOCHONDRIA AND METABOLIC ALTERATIONS IN LUNG DISEASE	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
D108	CELL FATE DECISIONS: SENESCENCE, REPAIR, AND REGENERATION	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 21, 2017			
A71	ONCOGENES AND ANGIOGENESIS IN LUNG TUMORS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A72	MECHANISMS DRIVING FIBROSIS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A73	BEYOND CIGARETTE SMOKE IN COPD	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A74	REGULATORY MECHANISMS OF THE MOLECULAR PATHWAYS IN FIBROSIS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A75	BIG AND BIGGER (DATA): OMICS AND BIOMARKERS OF LUNG DISEASES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 22, 2017			
B75	CURRENT UPDATES IN DISEASE MODELING	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B76	DRIVERS OF CELL FATE, SENESCENCE, AND PHENOTYPE	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B77	ROLE OF EPITHELIAL CELLS IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B78	ROLE OF ENDOTHELIAL CELLS IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B79	ROLE OF IMMUNE CELLS IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B80-A	MECHANISMS AND MODELS OF ACUTE LUNG INJURY	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B80-B	VIRAL INFECTIONS AND LUNG INJURY	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 23, 2017			
C73	NEW MECHANISMS AND THERAPIES IN COPD	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C74	ADVANCES IN TRANSLATIONAL COPD	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C75	FIBROSIS: CURRENT AND FUTURE APPROACHES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C76	HEAT SHOCK PROTEIN	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C77	ADVANCEMENTS IN THE BIOLOGY OF BPD AND OTHER CONGENITAL PEDIATRIC LUNG DISEASES	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C78	FIBROSIS: MEDIATORS AND MODULATORS	9:15 AM	4:15 PM

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

S. Vamsee Raju, MD. Director

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. Within the last one year, number of ‘followers’ has nearly doubled to 446 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. Most of the new ‘followers’ are young and upcoming professionals reiterating the special role of social media outlets in promoting the cause of 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 Carol Jiurong Liang, MD from Cedars-Sinai Medical Center on her recent article *"Hyaluronan and TLR4 Promote Surfactant-Protein-C-Positive Alveolar Progenitor Cell Renewal and Prevent Severe Pulmonary Fibrosis in Mice"*, in *JCI*. They were joined by the senior authors Drs. Paul Noble, MD and Dianhua Jiang, PhD, MD along with invited discussion panelist Dr. Rashmin Savani, MBChB from UT Southwestern. On March 13th, Jose L Gomez, MD, MS, from Yale University School of Medicine, hosted a presentation by Yan Xu, PhD from the University of Cincinnati on the article *"Single-cell RNA sequencing identifies diverse roles of epithelial cells in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis"* published in *JCI Insight*. The lively discussion that followed the presentation involved several stalwarts of respiratory genomics including the senior author Jeffrey Whitsett, MD, and, the invited discussants Anny Xiaobo Zhou, PhD from Harvard Medical School, and Naftali Kaminski, MD, from Yale University School of Medicine. In addition, we also co-hosted a Journal Club with the Section on Genetics and Genomics (SGG) on the article *"The Diagnosis and Management of Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency in the Adult"* *Chronic Obstr Pulm Dis (Miami)* by co-authors Robert A. Sandhaus, MD PhD, from National Jewish Health and Charlie Strange, MD, from The Medical University of South Carolina. The discussion was moderated by Andrew Wilson, MD (RCMB), and Katrina Steiling, MD MSc (SGG) from Boston University.

We are grateful to the Stem Cell Working Group (SCWG) for continuing to provide highly regarded guidance on navigating the world of unregulated and unproven stem cell-based therapies for lung diseases. SCWG spearheaded the ATS’s Official Statement on FDA’s Draft Guidances Relating to the Regulation of Human Cells, Tissues, and Cellular and Tissue-Based Products. This and other content from SCWG is being hosted on the RCMB Assembly webpage with access for all.

We are immensely grateful to Dr. Maor Sauler from Yale University School of Medicine, the incoming Chair for RCMB Web Committee, for his boundless enthusiasm for generating new podcasts. Dr. Sauler conducted insightful interviews with Dr. Jeanine D'Armiento from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeon and the Director of the Center for LAM and Rare Lung Diseases at Columbia University on the role of Matrix Metalloproteases in the pathogenesis of COPD and other lung diseases. Dr. D'Armiento discussed her work with patients with LAM, and shared her advice on the keys to developing a successful research and clinical medicine career. In another interview with Dr. Maor Sauler, Dr. Patty Lee, Yale University School of Medicine, and, Dr. Irfan Rahman, University of Rochester School of Medicine, discussed the molecular biology underlying the novel concept of lung aging, with a particular emphasis on cellular senescence, and the role of aging in the pathogenesis of common lung diseases, such as COPD and IPF. These and other archived content can be accessed from Assembly webpage on Ats.org.

We encourage all of our members to follow us @ATS_RCMB and participate in our discussions. 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.

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Rebecca Keith, MD, Chair

The primary mission of the Early Career Professionals Working Group (ECPWG) is to increase involvement of fellows and junior faculty in the RCMB Assembly and ATS as a whole. We are a mix of junior faculty MDs and PhDs, comprised of both U.S. and international members.

The ECPWG has been very active in developing and administering the RCMB Mentoring Program. The goals of our mentoring program are to help junior members take full advantage of all the resources available at the ATS international conference. In addition, mentors help junior faculty explore the available networking opportunities at the ATS international conference including attending the RCMB business meeting and reception. Each year we seek to increase the visibility of this important program and to encourage participation by junior and senior investigators.

We are pleased to offer the third annual Joint AII/RCMB Reception at ATS 2017. I hope you will be able to join us for this event on Monday, May 22, 7 - 10 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt Washington in Constitution Ballroom A on the Constitution Level 3B. Tickets are available for purchase here: <https://www.xpressreg.net/register/THOR0517/landing.asp?pt=&sc=&p2=&aban=&hkey=&iq=&vip=&tm=>. This reception provides an invaluable opportunity for young investigators to interact with senior members of both AII and RCMB in an informal environment.

Finally, this year we have worked with the Science and Innovation Center, and Members in Training and Transition Committee to develop programming at ATS International Conference. Please look for our 'RCMB picks' incorporated into the MITT roadmap. These 'picks' highlight seminars of interest to early career professionals within RCMB. Please also look for our glossy RCMB roadmap card which helps direct fellows and junior faculty to key events in the SIC and within the larger international conference.

As the Chair of the working group, I am always looking to add qualified individuals to enrich our group. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in participating (keithr@njhealth.org). We look forward to welcoming you to ATS 2017 and hope to see you at the third annual Joint reception for AII and RCMB at ATS 2017.

RCMB WORKING GROUP ON AGING REPORT

Scot Budinger, MD, Chair

Dear colleagues, this year ATS meeting will take place at Washington, DC. This is a unique chance for us to highlight the work of our group to NIH officials and members of the Congress. I encourage all of you to be proactive and actively reach out to your contacts at NIH and US Congress and invite them to visit ATS meeting in general and activities related to the Aging Working Group in particular. Thanks to the active work of the members of the working group, the aging-related programming at ATS 2017 was extremely successful as we are represented by Postgraduate course "The Hallmarks Of Aging In The Lung" (5/20/2017 PG20), Basic Science Session "Environment And Lung Aging: An Ecological Model" (5/22/2017 B85) and numerous oral presentations and posters. Please, send me your suggestions for discussion at the meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you at the working group meeting.

Scott Budinger, MD
s-buding@northwestern.edu

PhD TASKFORCE REPORT

Scott H. Randell, PhD

RCMB has a large proportion of PhD members and others not actively practicing clinical medicine, but whom are highly involved in research. Meeting their needs, adding value to their ATS experience, and keeping them highly connected, including annual attendance and participation at the International Conference is essential for our ongoing scientific vitality and excellence. In response, Past President Dr. Atul Malhotra, with support from the RSF, AII and RCMB assembly chairs and the ATS Board of Directors, established a PhD Working Group. RCMB is well represented in this group by Drs. Mariani, Moore, Randell and Ridge. There are plans for a meeting of the overall PhD Working Group, including members of other assemblies and ATS leadership, at the 2017 International Conference. The group seeks to clarify ways for the ATS to foster productive relationships between clinicians, clinical scientists, and basic scientists to best serve the needs and add value for all members. Dr. Petrache or RCMB members of the PhD Working Group are points of contact for those wishing to discuss topics, ideas or to get involved. There are strong working relationships between the PhD Working Group and the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) Committee, including mechanisms for attendees to provide input via a questionnaire, so please visit the SIC.

Speaking of the Science and Innovation Center (SIC)...it will be in full swing in a prominent location at the 2017 International Conference, with special "101" sessions on Ex Vivo Lung Models, E-Cig/Vaping Effects, Genomics, and Single Cell Analysis. As well as the ever-popular Early Career Professionals Coffee Corner, there will be sessions dedicated to Rising Stars of Research, SIC Abstract Awards and information on Funding Mechanisms that Complement ATS and NIH Opportunities. Light breakfast and refreshments will be served, so please take advantage of the SIC to meet, network, learn, and relax.

Assembly on Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology Membership Meeting

*Monday, May 16th
5:00pm-7:00pm
Grand Hyatt Washington DC*

*Independence Ballroom
F-I (Independence Level 5B)*

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

*Monday, May 22th
7:00pm-10:00pm
Grand Hyatt Washington DC*

*Constitution Ballroom A
Constitution Level 3B*

Be sure to follow us at [@ATS_Assemblies](https://twitter.com/ATS_Assemblies) for news on webinars, deadlines, and other things you might have missed in your inbox!



Meet Your Mentor HERE!



Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2017 ATS International Conference in Washington, DC, the Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentee to meet.

The Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting spot will be located in the Renaissance, Washington DC Hotel in the Carnegie room on the (Ballroom Level). The room will be available from:

Friday May 19th to Tuesday May 23rd between 7AM. to 7PM

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

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

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

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

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2018. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at www.thoracic.org.

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@ucdenver.edu.

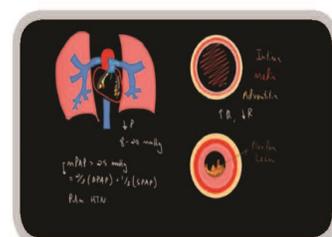
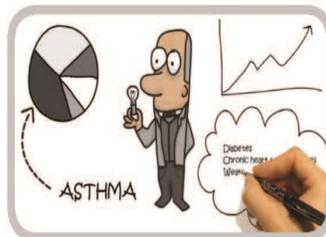
For questions regarding submissions please contact Miriam Rodriguez at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: mrodriguez@thoracic.org.

Best of ATS Video Lecture Series (BAVLS)

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

For more information, please visit

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



PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS

Networking Exchange For Early Career Professionals

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

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

Free to all conference attendees

Attend a Workshop in the Center for Career (CCD)

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

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

VISIT THE CCD TO PICK UP A ROAD MAP TODAY!



Washington, DC
May 19-May 24
conference.thoracic.org

ANNOUNCING ATS FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM 2017-2018 GRANT CYCLE

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

For more information on the current opportunities, please visit thoracic.org/go/researchgrants.

ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

Thank you for participating in the [2016 ATS Assembly Challenge](#)!

The annual challenge taps into the grassroots community — and competitive spirit — of the ATS assemblies in support of the ATS Foundation. This was the closest Challenge yet!



Irina Petrache, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, receives RCMB's Assembly Challenge award from Dean Schraufnagel, MD, ATS Foundation Chair

The results are: the Assembly on **Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology** raised the most dollars with \$94,718; **Nursing** had the highest member participation with 20.49 percent; **Allergy Immunology & Inflammation** had the highest number of first-time givers in December with seven new donors.

Many members made gifts supporting the [Research Program](#) and other core programs in the final days of 2016. There was tremendous energy around the Challenge this year, with assembly chairs crafting special messages to their members. Most chairs sent two or more personal emails to their members during the Challenge.

Congratulations to the Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, Nursing, and Allergy Immunology & Inflammation assemblies! They will receive special recognition in ATS communications, at ATS 2017, and within their own assemblies.

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

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



Eileen G. Collins, PhD, chair for the Assembly on Nursing, receives Nursing's Assembly Challenge award from Dean Schraufnagel, MD, ATS Foundation Chair



Mitchell A. Olman, MD, chair for the Assembly on Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, receives All's Assembly Challenge award from Dean Schraufnagel, MD, ATS Foundation Chair

A special thank you from RCMB chair Irina Petrache: "It is quite exciting to see the dedication and passion for research of our RCMB Assembly members, who rallied again to win the Assembly Challenge. From in-training, junior to senior scientists, RCMB members generously contributed, along with donors from all other ATS Assemblies, to support the funding of promising research that will eventually translate into curing respiratory illnesses."

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

SCIENCE & INNOVATION CENTER

Sunday, May 21 – Tuesday, May 23 • 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Wednesday, May 24 • 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Walter E. Washington Convention Center,
Hall D (Middle Building, Level 2)

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

DAILY

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

SIC 101 SERIES

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

Sunday, May 21

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

Genomics

Blanca Himes, PhD
University of Pennsylvania

11:15 a.m. – Noon

E. Cigarettes and Effects of Lung Immunology

Laura Crotty Alexander, MD
University of California,
San Diego

Monday, May 22

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

Ex Vivo 3D Lung Tissues

Melanie Königshoff, MD, PhD
University of Colorado, Denver

11:15 a.m. – Noon

RNA Seq/Single Cell RNA Seq

Max Seibold, PhD
National Jewish Health

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, May 21, and Monday, May 22

1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

Rising Stars of Research

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

Tuesday, May 23

7:15 – 8:00 a.m.

Early Career Professionals Coffee Corner

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

11:15 a.m. – Noon

Complementing NIH Funding: Philanthropic Organizations

Katherine L. Tuggle, PhD

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

1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

SIC Abstract Awards

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

ATS Membership Matters



Tell us!

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

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

Did you know that as an ATS member you:

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

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

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

Assembly Members: Help Us to Help You!

Have you:

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

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

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

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

ATS 2017 Exhibitors Doing Fundraisers for ATS Foundation

Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc. in Booth 525

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

AstraZeneca in Booth 637

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

Vitalograph, Inc. in Booth 1630

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



ATS BEAR Cage

(Building Education to Advance Research)

Sunday, May 21, 2017

2pm – 4pm

Center for Career Development

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

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

2017 BEAR Cage Finalists

Marcus Y. Chen, MD

National Heart, Lung, and
Blood Institute (NHLBI)

Chest CT at Chest X-ray Radiation Dose

Sanghyuk Shin, PhD

UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

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

Prema R. Menon, MD, PhD

University of Vermont Medical Center

Communicating with Mechanically Ventilated Patients

Cough

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



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

What causes a cough?

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

Can a cough spread infection?

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

To help decrease the spread of infection, you should:

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

Is there anything special that I should know about my cough?

If you have a cough, keep track of how long you have been

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

Acute, Sub-acute and Chronic Cough

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

● An acute cough is most often caused by the common cold. This cough usually starts to improve by the third to fifth day. Cough from the common cold usually is not a serious threat to health and usually does not last longer than 14 days.

People with a cold typically also complain of nasal stuffiness, runny nose, throat clearing, and a sore or scratchy throat. They also may feel like they have mucus dripping down the back of their throat. Acute cough can also be due to inhaling irritants such as pollen or strong fumes. Cough may be the first symptom of inadequate control of asthma. Less commonly, an acute cough can be due to more serious conditions such as pneumonia or heart failure.

● A sub-acute cough most commonly happens after a respiratory infection (often from a virus). Other common reasons for a sub-acute cough are whooping cough (pertussis) and flare-ups of conditions such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, sinusitis or bronchiectasis. When a cough starts to get better but then worsens, you should see your healthcare provider.

● A chronic cough can happen to you for many reasons. Often, it is a combination of reasons that explain why you are coughing. Chronic cough can happen from upper airway conditions such as inflammation (swelling) of the membranes inside the nose (rhinitis) and sinuses (sinusitis) as a result of allergies or infections or from poorly controlled asthma. Cigarette smoking can cause chronic bronchitis and result

Patient Education Materials Available at the 2017 International Conference

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

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

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

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

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

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