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Sleep & Respiratory Neurobiology

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Editor: Vsevolod (Seva) Polotsky MD, PhD

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

The Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Assembly <https://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/index.php> had a great year. There is increasing understanding of importance of sleep for public health. Sleep medicine attracts young physician-scientists and clinician-educators.



Vsevolod (Seva) Polotsky MD, PhD

Several major new developments took place in our Assembly and have been discussed extensively by the executive committee this year:

- 1) The Web committee has done an outstanding job under the leadership of Website Directors, Drs. Vidya Krishnan and Pedro Genta. The Sleep fragment series are now directly submitted to the Annals of the ATS. The selected fragments will be published in the Annals and the others are directed to the SRN Website.
- 2) The SRN Journal Club is becoming increasingly popular and has been emulated by other Assemblies. Check our Website <https://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/journal-club.php> for the schedule.
- 3) The Web education subcommittee published excellent education material including new patient fact sheets on Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome and Sleep Apnea in Pregnancy (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/patients-pamphlets.php>). The first educational video for patients with sleep apnea has been produced. Kudos to Dr. John Kimoff, Vidya and Pedro for making this video and to Judy Corn (ATS staff) for superb editing job. The link will be posted on the SRN web site in the near future.

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (Continued)

- 4) The SRN Assembly became active on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ATSSRN> and Twitter <https://twitter.com/ATSSRN>. Vidya and Pedro's accomplishments are impressive. Please read their report for details. As their term ends they are passing their responsibilities to our new Web Co-Directors, Drs. Bradley Edwards and Shirin Shafazand.
- 5) The Planning Committee under leadership of Indu Ayappa invested a lot of efforts in preparation and reviewing Assembly Projects. There are several ongoing projects (please see the Chair of Planning Committee report). I would like to highlight two projects of significant clinical importance. The first project is 'Impact of Mild Obstructive Sleep Apnea' spearheaded by Dr. Susmita Chowdhuri. The second project is a Clinical Practice Guideline on the 'Role of Weight Management in the Treatment of Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea' lead by Dr. David Hudgel. Both documents will provide clinicians with valuable tools to determine therapeutic strategy.
- 6) Another important activity of the Assembly under the auspices of the Planning Committee is soliciting applications for James B. Skatrud New Investigators Award. Applicants should not be at a rank higher than Assistant Professor (or equivalent). The nominees should be within 5 years of completion of their terminal research degree or clinical training and have more than one first authored paper that is considered to advance the science of respiratory neurobiology or sleep. The deadline for nominations is in Early April. Please see <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/assembly-awards/assembly-on-sleep-and-respiratory-neurobiology-james-b.-skatrud-new-investigator-award.php>.
- 7) The major activity of the Assembly is programming of the ATS International Conference. The Program Committee under leadership of Chair Dr. Nick Antic and Co-Chair Dr. Mihaela Teodorescu invested tremendous effort into programming sleep medicine sessions at the ATS International Conference to be held in Denver, May 15-20, 2015. We look forward to interesting symposia covering important aspects of sleep medicine, including personalized approach to managing sleep apnea, relationships between sleep loss, sleep apnea and body weight. Please, see the Program Committee report for the other content, including post-graduate courses, mini-symposia and others.
- 8) Training and Mentorship is one of the major subjects of our discussions. The Assembly regularly posts grant funding opportunity information on the Website. ATS presentations by junior members are supported by Abstract Scholarship. You can see the list of abstract scholarship award recipients at <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/awards/index.php>. We have several mechanisms actively engaging trainees and junior members in the vibrant Assembly environment, especially via participation in our Web Committee. I encourage all trainees and junior members to attend our Membership meeting followed by the Assembly Reception during the ATS International Conference in Denver on Monday, May 18, 2014. The 2015 James B. Skatrud New Investigator Award recipient will give a talk at the Membership meeting. Rob Roach, PhD, Director of the Altitude Research Center at the University of Colorado and a mountaineer himself will give a lecture at the Assembly Dinner. Rob is a great speaker and we look forward to seeing all of you at the dinner. You can register for the Assembly Reception while registering for the International Conference. Assembly Leadership will be available to answer your questions in person before the Membership meeting.

I would like to express my gratitude to all members of our executive committee who worked with me to implement our agenda. As the Assembly Chair, I have been representing our Assembly at the ATS Board of Directors. I have attended five meetings which educated me a great deal about the ATS. One of the outstanding recent successes is the ATS Foundation, which supports many young investigators with research grants. All contributions to the ATS Foundation go to research funding. This support is critical in the era of declining NIH funding.

Recent recipients from our Assembly include Xavier Soler, MD, who received an Outstanding Early Career Investigator Award for his project 'Pathophysiology of Obstructive Sleep Apnea affecting COPD: the Overlap Syndrome' and Jessie Bakker, PhD, who received a Sleep Unrestricted Award for her project 'Group-based Peer-support to Maximize Adherence to CPAP'. If you want to contribute to the ATS cutting edge research consider attending the ATS Research Program Benefit in Denver. (<http://foundation.thoracic.org/Benefit/Benefit-Ticket-Levels-2015.php>). If you are a young investigator, consider applying for ATS Foundation Unrestricted Sleep Research Grant or an Early Career Investigator Award, which have a very high success rate compared to the NIH and other foundation funding opportunities.

I have been honored to serve as the Assembly Chair in 2013-2015 and to represent Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology on the Board of Directors. In Denver I will pass the baton to new Assembly Chair, Susheel Patil, MD PhD. The executive committee and I would welcome any input from Assembly members. Feel free to contact Susheel at spatil@jhmi.edu and me at vpolots1@jhmi.edu with any questions. I hope to see all of you in Denver in May.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Nick Antic, PhD, MBBS, Chair and Mihaela Teodorescu, MD, MS, Chair-Elect

We believe we have a very exciting and diverse program planned for the SRN assembly for 2015 in Denver. The diversity extends from basic science presentations to clinical work. We have been delighted by the quality of abstract submissions and proposal submissions. The result, is we have programmed a meeting that will have appeal to the vast majority of our assembly. There is a slightly different format this year because there are to be some morning plenary sessions to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the ATS so the scientific symposia and mini symposia are both slightly shorter than they have been in years gone by.

I firstly want to draw people's attention to the **Thematic Seminar Series** which is something that the SRN assembly has not participated in previously. These are a series of linked seminars running across three days (Sunday-Tuesday 12:15-1:15) and require preregistration. On the first day Thomas Koehnlein and Doug McEvoy will have a pro/con debate "**Domiciliary NIV for chronic stable COPD**". On the second day Gerard Criner and Peter Wijkstra will debate "**The use of NIV at home after acute exacerbations of COPD**" again in a pro/con format and on day three Jean-Louis Pepin will discuss "**COPD phenotypes, comorbidities and impact on outcomes from NIV**". Finally Professor Mark Elliott who has convened these Seminars will discuss "**Domiciliary NIV; where to from here**" giving us all the answers. Please don't ask him about recent Australia vs England Ashes cricket test match results, it upsets him. These will be an outstanding series of seminars, most topical and because they require preregistration seating is limited, so I would encourage people to sign up as soon as possible otherwise you will miss out.

The SRN program formally begins this year with a Post Graduate course on the Saturday led by David Hillman, entitled "**Sleep anesthesia and sleep disordered breathing, physiology perioperative and related considerations.**" David has gathered a world class faculty of international leaders for this Course. We also hope we will bring both the anesthesia group and control of breathing experts back to engage more with our assembly.

Our Major scientific symposia cover a mix of clinical medicine and basic science. On Sunday Esra Tasali chairs a scientific symposium "**Sleep loss, sleep apnoea and weight gain; is there a link?**" (Speakers Dale Schoeller, Esra, David Gozal and Ron Grunstein) On Monday Andrew Wellman chairs a scientific symposium "**Personalized medicine for sleep apnoea, state of the art**" (Speakers Danny Eckert, Richard Horner, Scott

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PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

Sands, Eric Kezirian, Peter Cistulli and Brad Edwards) and on Wednesday John Kimoff and Susan Redline chair a session looking at the **“impact of sleep disordered breathing on maternal and fetal outcomes of pregnancy”** (Speakers Michelle Williams, Susmita Pamidi, Francesca Facco, David Gozal and Susan Redline) All three sessions are most important and very topical having all been very recently in the literature and we are fortunate to have world experts leading these sessions.

Our mini symposia cover a variety of topics including:

- Cardiovascular outcomes of sleep disorders
- Multifaceted effects of intermittent hypoxia
- Predicting responses to treatment in the era of personalized Medicine

In the final mini symposia on Tuesday morning we bring to together the highest ranking abstracts from our assembly in a session have called “High impact science” The session is to be concluded by our featured speaker Professor Susan Redline from Harvard presenting and discussing **“New directions in the field of Sleep Medicine. Key questions for the future”**. I encourage you to attend this session because there are some of the most outstanding abstracts we have seen submitted to our assembly. In this session there will be cutting edge research presented.

We have excellent sunrise sessions. Jesse Baker is running a session on **‘Technological advances and positive airway pressure therapy, effects and adherence’**. Bob Owen is looking at **‘Non-PAP therapies for OSA’** and Peter Gay looking at **‘Practical approaches for perioperative sleep apnoea epidemic’**. All Sunrise Sessions need preregistration of course and all promise to be terrific sessions. Our Meet the Professor’ sessions include one chaired by Seva Polotsky **“sleep apnoea and metabolic syndrome; the current evidence”** and another chaired by Renaud Tamisier **‘CPAP or APAP; what should physicians and patients expect’**. The remainder of the program has high quality Poster discussion and Thematic Poster sessions including sessions shared with Pediatrics and Nursing. The Nursing Symposium on Sunday morning has a strong SRN flavor **“Use of telehealth to promote self management of pulmonary, sleep disorder and critical illness”** Mark Aloia will be speaking.

The Plenary session will be the **“Discovery of obstructive sleep apnoea”** to be presented by Professor Alan Pack. It will be on the final morning of Wednesday May 20th at 8:30 AM. Raouf Amin is representing the SRN Assembly in the Clinical Year in Review on Monday morning

The ATS will be continuing its Clinical Core Curriculum for three tracks Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine-to meet additional needs of many of the attendees at the conference. Each curriculum is designed to address major components within the American Board of Medical Specialties blue prints over a 3-year period, and participation will provide MOC credit. The first Sleep Curriculum session will occur on Sunday morning (6:45AM to 8:15AM) and focus on "Insomnia: Definition, Epidemiology, Assessment and Therapy." The second session on Monday afternoon (2:15AM to 4:15PM) will deal with “Normal sleep & variants,” “Disorders of sleep-wake state,” “Central sleep apnea,” and “Sleep-related hypoventilation.” Jay Balachandran from the University of Chicago has led the programming from a SRN viewpoint with Tisha Wang at UCLA as Co-Chair. Many thanks to both of them.

We would like to thank the SRN Program Committee for their hard work both in submitting symposia and scientific presentations, but also their diligence in grading and participating in the programming of these sessions. We also thank Irina Petrache as ICC Chair and the ATS staff for their help and support.

We look forward to seeing you in Denver, and anticipate an interesting and hopefully on occasions a challenging meeting that helps us as a field to be innovate and creative, ultimately developing new strategies for the diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders.

ATS 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON SLEEP AND RESPIRATORY NEUROBIOLOGY

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Saturday, May 16, 2015			
PG27	SLEEP, ANESTHESIA, AND SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING: PHYSIOLOGY, PERIOPERATIVE, AND RELATED CONSIDERATIONS	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A89	SLEEP LOSS, SLEEP APNEA AND WEIGHT GAIN: IS THERE A LINK?	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B88	PERSONALIZED MEDICINE FOR SLEEP APNEA: STATE OF THE ART	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D9	IMPACT OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING ON MATERNAL AND FETAL OUTCOMES OF PREGNANCY	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Sunrise Seminars			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
SS117	TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE THERAPY: EFFECTS ON EFFICACY AND ADHERENCE (1/1)	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
SS217	NON PAP THERAPIES FOR OSA	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
SS318	PRACTICAL APPROACH TO THE PERIOPERATIVE SLEEP APNEA EPIDEMIC	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
MP416	CPAP OR APAP: WHAT SHOULD PHYSICIANS AND PATIENTS EXPECT?	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
MP514	SLEEP APNEA AND METABOLIC SYNDROME: CURRENT EVIDENCE	12:15 PM	1:15 PM

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Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Mini-Symposium			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B18	PICKING WINNERS. PREDICTING RESPONSE TO TREATMENT OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING IN ERA OF PERSONALISED MEDICINE	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C19	HIGH IMPACT SLEEP SCIENCE	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
C98	MULTI-FACETED EFFECTS OF INTERMITTENT HYPOXIA	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D99	BUILDING THE EVIDENCE: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM OUTCOMES OF SLEEP DISORDERS	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A29	SEEING IS BELIEVING: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM OUTCOMES OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	8:00 AM	4:15 PM
A109	THINKING OUTSIDE THE SQUARE: SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING IN PREGNANCY AND MEDICAL DISORDERS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B30	BEAST IS INSIDE: WHAT CAUSES THE ADVERSE OUTCOMES OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C30	NEW INSIGHTS IN PATHOGENESIS OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D30	FOR SUCCESS CHOOSE THE BEST: NEW TOOLS TO IDENTIFY SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A60	OUTCOMES OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING AND SLEEP LOSS	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B60	NEW INSIGHTS IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY, EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND DETECTION OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C70	SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING IN PEDIAT-	9:30AM	4:15PM

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Indu Ayappa, MD, Chair

Two Assembly projects were approved for renewal and are slated for completion in 2015. The first is a research statement on the “Impact of Mild Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Adults” chaired by Susmita Chowdhuri MD, MS. This statement will describe and appraise the evidence regarding whether (i) long-term adverse neurocognitive outcomes, including excessive daytime sleepiness, reduced attention, and increased motor vehicle crashes, are attributable to mild OSA in adults (ii) treatment of mild OSA in adults is effective at preventing or reducing these adverse neurocognitive outcomes and improving overall quality of life (iii) long-term cardiovascular clinical outcomes are attributable to mild OSA in adults and (iv) therapy of mild OSA in adults is effective at preventing or reducing the risk of these adverse cardiovascular outcomes and all-cause mortality. The Task Force members reviewed thousands of abstracts pertaining to the above stated goals and extracted and appraised selected papers. Several research gaps have been identified in the current body of literature describing the impact of mild OSA on neurocognitive and cardiovascular outcomes, and the task force is in the process of drafting and finalizing the Research Statement.

The second project titled “The Sleep Education for Pulmonary Fellows Project, chaired by Dr. Shirin Shafazand”, is in its second year of activity. It has the main aim of developing new and utilizing existing web based problem based learning (PBL) instructional tools that will aid PCCM fellows and practitioners in attaining and maintaining competency-based sleep medicine milestones. To date, 4 PBL modules (Adults OSA, Pediatric OSA, Central Sleep Apnea, Sleep and Neuromuscular disease) have been completed. These modules, along with facilitator's guides will be available on the SRN website and accessible to all those interested in sleep medicine. Future modules will include obesity hypoventilation syndrome, restless legs syndrome, excessive daytime hypersomnolence, sleep and respiratory disorders, and primers on interpreting sleep study reports, prescription of home sleep studies and autoPAP.

Two NEW Projects were approved for funding in 2015 wherein SRN is the Primary Assembly. The first is for the development of a Clinical Practice Guideline lead by David W. Hudgel, MD, FACP on the “Role of Weight Management in the Treatment of Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea”. The goals of the project are to conduct an evidence-based, graded review of the literature addressing the effect of weight gain and weight loss on the severity and comorbidity outcomes of adult obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) patients. Based on the above review and if supported by the evidence, they will develop practical recommendations for the Sleep Medicine practitioner on how best to assist overweight /obese OSA patients with weight reduction. The recommendations will include methods on how to efficiently incorporate and conduct a weight management program within a Sleep Medicine practice. The group includes Sleep Medicine and Nutrition scientists, methodologists, librarians and OSA patients who have volunteered to contribute to this effort. In order to increase the number of methodologists, the ATS is providing training in methodology.

The second new project is for the development of a workshop report on “Non-Invasive Identification of Inspiratory Flow Limitation (IFL) in Sleep Studies with Susmita Pamidi, MD as the PI. The goals of this project are to (i) Discuss the physiologic basis for using IFL as an index of upper airway function and its clinical impact (ii) Examine the agreements and disagreements among existing approaches to scoring IFL manually (iii) Review the technology of signal acquisition and processing used to score flow data (iv) Discuss approaches to validation of IFL scoring and (v) Produce an Official ATS Workshop Report that describes the rationale for a standardized an validated training set for IFL and lay out a plan for its development. The day long workshop will be held a.....

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PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

SRN Assembly members are also participating in two multi-assembly projects. (i) The development of an Official American Thoracic Society research statement: Implementation Science in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine, lead by Curtis Weiss MS, MD and (ii) Development of an Official ATS/NHLBI Workshop Report: Respiratory Health Disparities, being led by Juan Celedon DrPH, MD.

Finally, Sutapa Mukherjee with active input from the ATS President-Elect Atul Malhotra and Vice President David Gozal spearheaded an Official ATS Statement: The Importance of Healthy Sleep – Recommendations and Future Priorities.

On behalf of the planning committee I would like to sincerely thank the assembly members, particularly the chairs of the projects, who volunteer their time towards this enormous effort. Finally, we look forward to new ideas and submissions for new project proposals from our members for the next cycle in July 2015.

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Pedro Genta, MD and Vidya Krishnan, MD MHS, Co-Chairs

Not even a cold vortex winter can overshadow what our ATS SRN Web Committee has done this year! Our mission for the SRN Assembly website is always to promote sleep education for professionals and patients, support academic pursuits of research and publication, and to create a network by which members of our SRN Assembly can foster collaborations to further the field of Sleep Medicine.

We are most excited about our patient education initiatives. We have led the ATS assemblies in terms of new patient education fact sheet (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/patients-pamphlets.php>). The fact sheets developed are direct for patients, as well as for clinical sleep providers to educate their patients. We have just finished the edition of our first patient educational video on Sleep Apnea. We are also planning to record podcasts concerning hot topics in Sleep Medicine featuring our most prominent specialists. In either audio or video or both, we hope to reach our target sleep audience. We are always looking for novel ideas for new patient fact sheets for our clinical and research patient populations.

Our ongoing efforts in continued professional education are equally invigorating. Most exciting, our own assembly members have spearheaded the assembly project to create a sleep curriculum for Pulmonary fellowships. The modules will be available online soon. Our ongoing project to update the website for sleep-related questionnaires (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/web-education-site-pro.php>) will be an asset to not only our clinical members, but our clinical research members. The repository of questionnaires are not only listed, but are reviewed for their merit, validity, and clinical applicability.

Each month, we host an online journal club that highlights a recent, relevant article in our field of sleep medicine. The sessions are archived in our website (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/journal-club.php>) for ongoing discussion. The online monthly Journal Club continues to be well-received by members and trainees. The one-hour sessions entail engaging discussions about thought-provoking and varied topics in the realm of sleep medicine. Again, we use this forum to engage our younger members to participate in the ATS organization and our assembly, while soliciting the experience of experts in the topic to guide the discussions. Previous Journal Clubs are cataloged on the website for members who cannot participate in real-time, or wish to reference the discussion (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/journal-club.php>). We are grateful to the presenters, panelists, and participants, for the continued enthusiasm in this endeavor. We welcome ideas and participants for future Journal Club events from our Assembly members.

Our mission to promote research is evident in our ongoing updates to our Research website (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/sleep-opportunities.php>). Our committee seeks out research opportunities in Sleep medicine, and our website has garnered the favor of many sleep researchers. We welcome any additional information you may have to promote our site for all of our members.

Our Social Media networking continues to thrive. We use Twitter™, Facebook™ and LinkedIn™ to connect our Assembly members and establish a forum by which to share information about news in Sleep Medicine and start dialogues about interesting sleep topics. We invite every member to join our social network community on these media and invite those who you know to do the same (search for “ATS SRN”).

The Sleep Fragments series continues to be a featured section every other month of the Annals of the American Thoracic Society publication. This is a great opportunity for trainees and junior faculty to publish cases that are unique and educational to our sleep community. Submissions and peer-review are now conducted by the journal editors at (http://www.atsjournals.org/page/AnnalsATS/instructions_for_authors). Accepted cases are published both in the Annals of ATS journal as well as on the SRN Assembly website (<http://www.thoracic.org/clinical/sleep/sleep-fragment/index.php>). In addition, sleep fragments not accepted for print publication are considered for online-only publication on the SRN Assembly website.

We believe that the SRN web committee is a wonderful way to get more involved in our assembly. Please join, submit a sleep fragment, connect with us through Facebook or Twitter, and suggest a topic for the Journal Club and the patient education fact sheets. We welcome all those who want to share their ideas and talents – please join us at the ATS SRN Website Committee meetings at the ATS conference in May 2015 (meeting dates/times to be posted on our website) to get more involved or email us.

We have been honored to serve in this key role of the ATS SRN Assembly for the last 2 years, and could only achieve our success with the collaborative work with the ATS administration and staff. We look forward to working with the next SRN Assembly Web Editors, Drs. Bradley Edwards and Shirin Shafazand, to continue and progress the mission of our Assembly. We would like to hear your feedback.

Pedro Genta, MD
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Vidya Krishnan, MD MHS
vkrishnan@metrohealth.org

Meet Your Mentor HERE!



Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2015 ATS International Conference in Denver, 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 Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in room Plaza Court 5 (Concourse Level). The room will be available:

Friday May 15th – Tuesday May 19th, 2015 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday May 20th 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!

Other opportunities to meet:

- 1) New Member Meet and Greet – this occurs 30 minutes prior each Assembly Membership Meeting
- 2) Early Career Professionals' Corner
Science and Innovation Center (Denver Convention Center)
Tuesday, May 19th, 2015
7:00– 8:00 a.m.
Light breakfast will be served

For more information on the Mentorship Programs, contact Breana Portelli at bportelli@thoracic.org.

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:
 - o 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.
 - o 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.



Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology; Gregory P. Downey, MD, chair for the Assembly on Allergy Immunology & Inflammation; and Kristin A. Riekert, PhD, chair for the Assembly on Behavioral Science and Health Services Research, proudly display their 2014 ATS Assembly Challenge awards

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
Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology
Membership Meeting***

***Monday, May 18th
5:00pm-7:00pm***

Embassy Suites Denver Downtown

***Crystal Ballroom A-B
Third Floor***

***Assembly on
Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology
Reception***

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

Embassy Suites Denver Downtown

***Crystal Ballroom C
Third 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 Indu A. Ayappa, PhD at indu.ayappa@nyumc.org.

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 @PR_Assembly
@ATSSRN @ATS_PC
@ATS_MTPI @ATSNursing
@atstoa @ATS_RCMB
@ATS_RSF



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.