MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

The Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Assembly continues to play an active role in the ATS and continues to promote the clinical, research, and educational missions within sleep medicine. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the many activities ongoing within the Assembly:

1. **International Conference:** A major activity of the Assembly is programming at the ATS International Conference. The Program Committee under the leadership of Chair Dr. Esra Tasali and Chair-Elect Dr. Leila Kheirandish-Gozal has invested tremendous effort into programming sleep medicine sessions at the ATS International Conference to be held in San Diego CA from May 18th to May 23rd. The Committee has put together a truly outstanding program this year including two postgraduate courses, one on “Advanced PAP Therapy: Treatment of Sleep Disordered Breathing Beyond OSA” and one on “What the Pulmonologist and the Intensivist Should Know about Sleep Apnea”. The major symposia reflect a nice balance of basic, translational, and clinical research; the titles of these sessions are “CPAP and Weight Gain: Mechanisms and Beyond”, “New Paradigms for Resolving Sleep Apnea Heterogeneity: Deep Phenotyping and Genomics”, and “Hypoglossal Motorneurons in OSA: How to Fix the Broken Engine”. In addition, Esra and Leila have been able to work with other committees to get two additional symposia programmed, one on “Global Care for Sleep Disorders” working with the International Health Committee and one on “Sleep and Lung Disease” working with the Public Advisory Round Table. Finally, working together with the Pediatric Assembly, we have co-sponsored a mini-symposium on Pediatric OSA that will be named in honor of our dear colleague, Dr. Carole Marcus, who passed away much too early. There will be talks highlighting Dr. Marcus’ many contributions to our field at that session, I hope everyone will try to attend.

2. **Assembly Projects:** The Planning Committee under the leadership of Dr. Reena Mehra continued to review and support ongoing Assembly Projects. In the past year, two official ATS statements related to sleep have been published: 1) a Workshop Report on knowledge gaps in the perioperative management of adults with obstructive sleep apnea and obesity hypoventilation syndrome led by Dr. Najib Ayas, and 2) a Research Statement on research priorities in the pathophysiology of sleep-disordered breathing in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease led by Dr. Atul Malhotra. In addition, there are several more active ongoing projects including a Clinical Practice Guideline on the ‘Role of Weight Management in the Treatment of Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea’ led by Dr. David Hudgel ...

(Continued on Page 2)
that should be published later this year. In addition, Dr. Babak Mokhlesi is leading a Clinical Practice Guideline on the management of patients with obesity hypoventilation syndrome. Finally, a new Clinical Practice Guideline led by Dr. Madalina Macrea was just approved this year on the use of noninvasive ventilation in the management of chronically hypercapnic patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. This guideline should be very timely given the number of recent clinical trials in this population.

3. **Engaging New Members:** We have several mechanisms aimed at actively engaging trainees and junior members into our vibrant Assembly environment. First, we have a newly created Early Career Working Group headed by Dr. Omar Mesarwi, which has fellows and other trainees as members. Joining this group is a great way to get involved in the Assembly. Omar and his committee have done an amazing job already as they have taken on a number of projects to meet the needs of SRN trainees and junior faculty.

First, they have taken responsibility for the Assembly Mentoring Program helping trainees and junior faculty connect with a more senior Assembly member who may serve as a research mentor in terms of shared research interests or simply provide career advice on grant writing, job interviews, work-life balance, etc. This program also allows Mentors to give Mentees advice on networking during the international conference.

Second, the Early Career Working Group is planning a breakfast on Sunday, May 20th from 7-8am during the international conference to allow trainees and other junior members of our Assembly to meet their peers and gain advice on how to navigate through the meeting and get involved in the ATS. All trainees and junior faculty are encouraged to attend.

Members wanting to get more engaged in the Assembly can also come to the SRN Membership Meeting on Monday, May 21st, 2018 at 4:30pm. Assembly officers will be present 30 minutes prior to the start of the membership meeting to facilitate meeting new members and answering questions. The Membership Meeting itself is a great way to see what the Assembly is doing and ask questions of Assembly officers and other ATS leaders.

At the Membership Meeting, the 2018 James B. Skatrud New Investigator Award recipient will be announced and will make a brief presentation. In addition, working closely with the Pediatrics Assembly, we have created a new award this year – the Carole L. Marcus Award, to be awarded to an early career individual who has advanced the care of those with pediatric sleep disordered breathing. This award will recognize contributions in the areas of research, education, and clinical care for children with sleep disordered breathing to reflect the commitment of Dr. Marcus in advancing all of these aspects of this field. In order to fund this award, please consider making a tax-deductible donation through the ATS Foundation earmarked specifically for the Carole L. Marcus award.

The Assembly Reception will take place immediately after the Membership Meeting and this is a great opportunity for members to re-connect with old friends and meet young new members. We have worked hard to defray the cost of this event for trainees and I would encourage mentors to consider purchasing tickets for your trainees. The speaker for the Reception will be Dr. Satchin Panda of the Salk Institute whose talk is titled “Time-restricted eating is a novel intervention to prevent chronic diseases”. Dr. Panda’s lab has been doing cutting edge research on the molecular mechanisms underlying mammalian circadian rhythms so this should be an exciting talk. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

4. **The SRN Journal Club:** Drs. Neomi Shah and Rob Stansbury have led efforts with the SRN Journal Club this year and have tried changing up formats a bit to see what would best the needs of our membership. The Journal clubs have alternated between live sessions that people can dial into and hear a review of recent article in our field with a discussion panel that has included the authors of that paper. This format has allowed all those calling in to actively participate. However, because of the difficulties with individuals being able to find a convenient time all around the globe for these Journal Clubs, Drs. Neomi Shah and Rob Stansbury have also started preparing Journal Clubs as podcasts where they interview the authors of a relevant paper asking questions (in part submitted ahead of time by the membership). These podcasts allow members the freedom to download and listen at their convenience. The schedule for coming events and recordings of past Journal Clubs are available on our website. Please provide feedback to Neomi and Rob if you have strong feelings about which format you’ve found most helpful or have other ideas on how to continue to improve the Journal Clubs.

5. **Patient education materials:** These materials continue to be developed for patients with sleep disorders. With support from ATS staff, several new pamphlets have been developed in the past year including Healthy Sleep in Children, OSA in Children, PAP Troubleshooting, and Narcolepsy. Note that many of the patient materials are available in Spanish, Portuguese, and other languages.
6. **Sleep Fragments**: The Web committee continues to do an outstanding job with the Sleep Fragments aided by members of the Early Career Working Group who have taken it upon themselves to develop some of these fragments. The Sleep Fragments are now fully integrated into the Annals of the ATS and are an excellent opportunity for trainees to have a publication and fulfill the educational requirements of their training program. I want to thank Brad and Shirin for their outstanding leadership of the Web Committee as they transfer responsibility of the Committee to Dr. Jonathan Jun.

7. **Dental Sleep Medicine Interest Group**: Dr. James Metz, DDS continues to lead our Dental Sleep Medicine Interest Group, which will be in its 5th year. Jim has been a great advocate for getting sleep dentists to attend the ICC and be a part of the ATS community. Please let your dental colleagues know that our Assembly has a home for sleep dentists and are interested in supporting state-of-the-art education and research on dental aspects of sleep medicine. Jim is happy to reach out and send material to any dentists who might be interested in learning more.

8. **ATS Foundation**: The ATS Foundation has been critical in supporting many young investigators within the ATS. For every $1 that is donated, the Foundation has calculated that awardees generate $13 in future grant funding. This is a phenomenal return on investment. The Foundation has committed to awarding at least 1 sleep related application per year as sleep medicine is considered a fundamental pillar of the ATS. In 2017, ATS Foundation Unrestricted Grants were awarded to Dr. Tetyana Kendzerska for “Sleep Apnea and Cancer Development and Progression: Evidence from Clinical and Administrative Data”, Dr. Omar Mesarwi for “Mechanisms of Liver Fibrosis and Steatosis in Obstructive Sleep Apnea” and Dr. Abdulghani Sankari for “Animal Model of Sleep Disordered Breathing and Novel Therapeutic Targets.” In addition, a partner award between the ATS Foundation and ResMed was awarded to Dr. Jeremy Orr for “Impact of Non-Invasive Ventilation on Cardiovascular Biomarkers in COPD”. Please join me in congratulating these scientists on winning these prestigious awards! If you want to contribute to the ATS Foundation to help support young investigators doing cutting edge research in our field, please consider attending the ATS Research Program Benefit in San Diego. (http://foundation.thoracic.org/benefit/index.php). In addition, please support the Foundation directly by making a donation at https://thoracic.secure.force.com/ContributeOnline. If you are a young investigator, consider applying for one of the ATS Foundation awards, which have a high success rate compared to NIH and other funding opportunities.

A new program that has been established through the ATS Foundation is the Academic Sleep Pulmonary Integrated Research/Clinical (ASPIRE) fellowship which provides funding and training for fellows interested in pursuing research related to sleep-disordered breathing. This program began with 7 fellows accepted into the inaugural class in 2017 – Drs. Jason Ackrivo, Priya Borker, Lucas Donovan, Michael Lam, Anna May, Jennifer Newitt, and Jeremy Orr. Congratulations to all of these fellows who represent the future of our field. Special thanks to Dr. Richard Schwab who spearheaded the creation of this program and obtained corporate sponsorships to fund the program. You can learn more about this exciting program including applying for the 2018 funding cycle at www.aspirefellowship.com.

9. **Social Media**: The SRN Assembly is active on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ATSSRN and Twitter https://twitter.com/ATSSRN. Many thanks to Omar and Brad for managing our Facebook and Twitter accounts respectively. Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter at @ATSSRN or me at @srpatelmd for news about the Assembly.

Finally, I would welcome any input from Assembly members on how our Assembly can better meet your needs. If you have ideas on programming for next year’s conference, projects the Assembly should sponsor, content for our website, or any other ideas, please let me know. Even better, if you would like to volunteer your time to serve on one of the many Assembly committees, please contact me at patelsr2@upmc.edu. I hope to see all of you in San Diego in May!

Sincerely Yours,
Sanjay R. Patel MD, MS
Chair, Assembly on Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology (SRN)
We planned the ATS 2018 Program to satisfy the interest of many basic and clinical scientists from different backgrounds covering topics from bench to bedside. Below is an overview of the programmed content developed within our Assembly as well as in collaboration with other assemblies. In addition, please listen to the podcast, where Dr. Shirin Shaafazand, Web Co-Director, interviews, Drs. Tasali and Gozal regarding the scientific content of the upcoming ATS 2018 meeting in San Diego.

Please note that there is highly interesting content and a full program on WEDNESDAY — so PLEASE PLAN YOUR TIME at the International Conference accordingly.

Another very special part of this year’s program will be honoring the memory of Dr. Carole Marcus, a beloved member of our Assembly who recently passed away. The session, “A17—Honoring Carole Marcus: Advances in Pediatric Sleep Medicine”, is programmed on Sunday morning in honor of Dr. Marcus. Dr. David Gozal, among others will honor Carole’s memory and contributions to the field of sleep medicine research with brief presentations at the start of the session.

Thank you to the members of the SRN Program Committee, who proposed ideas submitted for major symposia, provided critical feedback, and reviewed abstracts submitted to our Assembly. Thank you also in advance to all Chairs, Moderators and Facilitators for their contribution.

Major Symposia
We believe that the Major symposia reflect cutting-edge, basic and clinical science in significant areas affecting our field today and in the near future. Of note, all 3 of our SRN Major Symposia have been designated eligible for maintenance of certification (MOC) points.

**CPAP and Weight Gain: Mechanisms and Beyond.** This symposium will include a multidisciplinary group of experts who will discuss the most recent evidence on weight gain after CPAP therapy. In addition to up-to-date evidence from randomized clinical trials (L.Drager), presentations will include underlying mechanisms (S.Pamidi) and clinical significance of weight gain after CPAP (D.Schoeller and C.Hoyos) as well as new technology-based weight loss interventions (B.Spring). This session is expected to address major knowledge and practice gaps by increasing the understanding of what weight gain means after CPAP therapy, which could have important clinical implications in OSA management.

**Paradigms for Resolving Sleep Apnea Heterogeneity: Deep Phenotyping and Genomics.** This session will present cutting edge science on phenotyping and genetics related to sleep apnea. The session will begin with a presentation by Dr. C. O’Donnell on national programs in precision medicine with a focus on the relevance to the respiratory and sleep community. This will be followed by presentations on deep phenotyping and tailored interventions (B.Edwards), clinical sleep apnea phenotypes and cardiovascular disease (A.Zinchuk), predicting metabolic and hemodynamic responses to sleep apnea treatment (J. Jun), genetic associations for novel sleep apnea phenotypes (B.Cade), and lessons learned from pulmonary genomics studies (S.Gharib). This session will make researchers and clinicians aware of recent progress in linking novel sleep apnea phenotypes to genomic risk factors.

**Hypoglossal Motoneurons in OSA: How to fix the broken engine.** This session will review state-of-the-art knowledge about control of hypoglossal neurons in health and disease, as well as novel approaches to pharmacotherapy of OSA. First, Dr.Feldman will review the control of breathing and hypoglossal motoneurons in OSA pathogenesis. This talk will be followed by a review of hypoglossal motoneurons as a drug target (R.Horner), chemogenetic modulation of hypoglossal motoneurons (S.Polotsky), and deep phenotyping of the upper airway (A.Wellman). At the end of the session, there will be a round table to discuss the next steps for pharmacotherapy of OSA.

Other jointly developed symposia include:
- **Global Care for Sleep Disorders** (Committee Sponsored Symposium-International Health Committee).
- **Sleep and Lung Disease** (Committee Sponsored Symposium-Public Advisory Round Table).

**Workshop**
**How to design a clinical trial in OSA:** This workshop will include multidisciplinary leaders in the field to provide participants with the tools to design the next best clinical trial in sleep apnea. The session will begin with a brief synopsis of the limitations of previously published trials (i.e. SAVE trial) and its major focus will be to discuss strategies for designing robust future clinical trials in sleep apnea. These strategies will include …

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(1) novel clinical trial design application (2) choosing the right study endpoint(s) (3) applying lessons learnt from other pulmonary disease trials (such as from COPD and cystic fibrosis) to improve CPAP adherence (4) CPAP dosing and interpretation in clinical trials.

**Mini Symposium**
The 3 Mini Symposia reflect some of the best science from our Assembly, chosen from more than 250 abstracts.

**SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE AND MORTALITY** (chairs Klar Yaggi, Michael Twery, Naresh Punjabi). This session will highlight the most recent data from epidemiologic and clinical research on sleep disordered breathing, cardiovascular disease and mortality.

**SLEEP PHENOTYPES, GENETICS, AND BIOMARKERS: NOVEL INSIGHTS** (chairs Richa Saxena, Reena Mehra, Manuel Sánchez de la Torre). This session will present novel insights from epidemiologic and clinical research studies linking sleep phenotypes to genetics and biomarkers.

**SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING AND CARDIOMETABOLIC OUTCOMES: BENCH TO BEDSIDE** (chairs Neomi Shah, Jag Sunderram, Safwan Badr). This session will discuss novel experimental data from animal and human studies on sleep disordered breathing and cardiovascular and metabolic outcomes.

**Poster Discussion**
As it was very well received last year, this year we will again follow the “RApid format” for each of the 4 SRN Poster Discussion sessions. Briefly, this format involves a brief 1-slide, 1.5 minute snapshot introduction of the research by the first author, poster viewing and general discussion with questions and answers.

**UPPER AIRWAY DYNAMICS: INSIGHTS FROM HUMAN AND ANIMAL STUDIES** (moderators Atul Malhotra, Peter Eastwood). This session will present research on upper airway dynamics including basic, translational and clinical science.

**PREDICTORS AND CLINICAL CORRELATES OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING** (moderators John Kimoff, Peter Catcheside, Grace Pien, Leila Kheirandish-Gozal) This session is a more clinically oriented session focused on various predictors and clinical correlates of SDB.

**TREATMENT OPTIONS IN SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING: ADHERENCE AND HEALTH OUTCOMES** (moderators Babak Mokhlesi, Patrick j Strollo, Ferran Barbe) This session has interesting science related to treatment options in SDB from an adherence and clinical outcomes perspective.

**PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF OSA: INTERMITTENT HYPOXIA AND BEYOND** (moderators Renaud Tamisier, Seva Polotsky). This session will include experimental data from animal and human studies in the pathogenesis of OSA, particularly intermittent hypoxia.

**Sunrise Seminars**
These 1 hour breakfast seminars are presented by junior faculty in a specific area, and designed to both highlight the speakers and their work, as well as provide experience with presenting scientific material. Attendance at one of these sessions is a great way to support those new to our field.

**Tips and tricks in reading and critiquing clinical trials in sleep medicine** by Dr. Camilla Hoyos (Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, University of Sydney)

**Noninvasive ventilation (NIV) in children** by Dr. Hui-Leng Tan (University of Cambridge)

**Positional therapy for treatment of OSA** by Dr. Simon Joosten (Monash University)

**Meet the Professor Series**
These 1 hour lunch seminars are a great opportunity to meet senior leaders in the field, understand their work and how they progressed through the field. Pre-registration is required, and space is very limited – sign up soon!

**Omar Burschtin, MD** (Mount Sinai Hospital) “Discover the Hidden Gems of Home Sleep Testing”

**Bernie Sunwoo, MD** (UC San Diego) and **Babak Mokhlesi, MD** (University of Chicago) “Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome”

**Neepa Gurbani, MD** and **Narong Simakajornboon** (Cincinnati Children's Hospital) “The Role of Polysomnography on Decannulation Process in Children”

*(Continued on Page 6)*
Education
There are a variety of opportunities for continued learning at the International Conference this year. We are pleased to announced that there will be 2 highly educative post graduate (PG) courses on Friday and Saturday.

**PG course “Advanced PAP therapy: treatment of sleep disordered breathing beyond OSA-practical skills course”** (Molly Billings, MD) is intended for all sleep providers to review the science and practicalities of the use of advanced PAP therapy for the treatment of sleep apnea. Pre-registration is required for this course, and space is limited!

**PG course “What the pulmonologist and intensivist should be know about sleep apnea”** (Robert Owens, MD) is intended for all pulmonologist and other health care providers. This course will provide an overview on how to screen for, diagnose, treat and manage sleep apnea. Pre-registration is required for this course, and space is limited!

**Clinical Year in Review on Sleep Disordered Breathing** is scheduled on Tuesday morning, which is designed to survey the most important findings in the last year that impact clinical care.

Adult Clinical Core Curriculum topics are Restless Leg Syndrome, REM behavior disorder and neurological disorders.

Looking forward to seeing you all in San Diego!
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<th>Session Code</th>
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<td>NON-INVASIVE VENTILATION IN CHILDREN</td>
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<td>SS317</td>
<td>POSITIONAL THERAPY FOR THE TREATMENT OF OSA: EPIDEMIOLOGY, PATHOPHYSIOLOGY AND TREATMENT OPTIONS</td>
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<td>THE ROLE OF POLYSOMNOGRAPHY ON DECANNULATION PROCESS IN CHILDREN</td>
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<td>DISCOVER THE HIDDEN GEMS OF HOME SLEEP TESTING</td>
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<td>SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING IN CARDIOPULMONARY AND NEUROENDOCRINE DISORDERS</td>
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<td>RISK AND PREVALENCE OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING</td>
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<td>PREDICTORS OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING AND RESPONSE TO TREATMENT</td>
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If you have thoughts on a potential Assembly project, start thinking now and feel free to contact me to discuss how best to develop your ideas. The deadline is typically the end of July.

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**ATS 2018 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**ASSEMBLY ON SLEEP AND RESPIRATORY NEUROBIOLOGY SESSIONS**

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<td>CASE REPORTS IN SLEEP DISORDERS</td>
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<td>D60</td>
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**ATS 2018 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST TO SRN ASSEMBLY**

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**Workshop Sessions**

**Tuesday, May 22, 2018**

| WS5 | CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: SWIMMING IN THE SEA OF BIG DATA FOR PULMONARY RESEARCH | 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM |

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**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Reena Mehra, MD, Chair

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If you have thoughts on a potential Assembly project, start thinking now and feel free to contact me to discuss how best to develop your ideas. The deadline is typically the end of July.
During the past year, the ATS SRN Web Committee has continued its excellent tradition of providing an online portal of communication and information exchange amongst all those interested in sleep and respiratory neurobiology. Here is a highlight of some of the key achievements from our sub-committees.

Education (co-chaired by Drs Helena Schotland and Iris Perez)
The content provided by the Education Sub-Committee continues to be one of the most frequently accessed materials on our website. This past year, the Education Sub-Committee has been busy updating various sleep-related questionnaires (available at: [http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/questionaires/](http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/questionnaires/)) that continue to be an excellent resource for clinicians and researchers alike. Additionally, our education team has also been busy updating a number of patient education pamphlets ([http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/patient-educational-materials/](http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/patient-educational-materials/)) which include pamphlets focused on OSA in both adults and children as well as PAP troubleshooting. The team has released 3 new patient pamphlets focussed on Healthy Sleep in both children and teenagers as well as one about narcolepsy. New patient information pamphlets, on Sleep and Performance, Women and Sleep, and Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome, are in development with the aim of being released later this year, so keep an eye out for these.

Journal Club (co-chaired by Drs Neomi Shah and Robert Stansbury)
Every other month, we aim to host an online journal club that highlights a recent, relevant article in sleep medicine. This past year we have begun trialling a new podcast format for the journal club which involves discussion of a recent paper in a podcast format – the decision to trial this approach was driven by the desire to improve outreach of our journal clubs. To date, we have released 2 of these podcasts described below:

1. (released September, 2017) Dr. Neomi Shah interviewed Dr. Doug McEvoy who is a co-author of the article titled “Association of Positive Airway Pressure With Cardiovascular Events and Death in Adults With Sleep Apnea A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis”. In this podcast, Drs. Shah and McEvoy were joined by Dr. Daniel Gottlieb who wrote an editorial accompanying the article. The discussion focused on the paucity of clinical trials evaluating the impact of CPAP therapy on major adverse cardiovascular outcomes and how the published meta-analysis of 10 clinical trials informs the design and conduct of future clinical trials. This podcast has had a whopping 696 hits on the website to date which is a credit to all those involved!

2. (released February, 2018) Dr. Rob Stansbury interviewed lead authors Andree-Ann Baril and Dr. Nadia Gosselin of the paper entitled “Gray Matter Hypertrophy and Thickening with Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Middle-aged and Older Adults.” The discussion focused on intrinsic markers of obstructive sleep apnea severity and measures of cerebral gray matter structure.

In addition to these new format journal clubs, the team continues to release the more traditional format sessions, all of which are archived on our website, [http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/journal-club/](http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/journal-club/) for those who cannot attend the live webcast.

Thank you to all the authors that have made themselves available to participate – as well those that have participated as either presenters, moderators and expert panel members. If you have any ideas for articles you’d like to see covered in our Journal Clubs, please contact either Dr. Shah or Dr. Stansbury.

Funding: (chaired by Dr. Madalina Macrea)
Given the challenging funding environment, Dr. Madalina Macrea continues to maintain an updated list of funding opportunities relevant to sleep research at: [http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/funding-opportunities/](http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/funding-opportunities/)

Other SRN web-related activities to keep an eye out for:

1. **Sleep Fragments**: Have you seen a recent clinical case that was unique and may be educational to our sleep community? If the answer is yes, consider submitting it to the Sleep Fragments series, which continues to be a featured section of the Annals of the American Thoracic Society publication. This is a great opportunity for trainees and junior faculty. Submissions and peer-review are now conducted by the journal editors (at: [http://www.atsjournals.org/page/AnnalsATS/instructions_for_authors](http://www.atsjournals.org/page/AnnalsATS/instructions_for_authors)).

2. **Podcasts**: We are now amassing quite a collection of 10-20 minute podcasts that aim to engage in friendly discussions on topical events and discoveries in the world of sleep medicine. Two key highlights were podcasts where we heard from Dr. Beth Malow about sleep in autism spectrum disorders, and Dr Allan Pack regarding the prevalence of OSA in commercial drivers, the current screening and treatment recommendations, and suggestions for physicians who are taking care of drivers at risk for OSA. If you feel like catching up on these podcasts, they can be accessed at: [http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/podcasts.php](http://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/srn/podcasts.php)

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**WEB COMMITTEE REPORT**

Bradley Edwards, PhD and Jonathan C. Jun, MD, Co-Chairs

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**Sleep & Respiratory Neurobiology**

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3. **Social Media:** The SRN Assembly continues to be active on Facebook at [https://www.facebook.com/ATSSleep/](https://www.facebook.com/ATSSleep/) and twitter (@ATSSRN). If you’d like to stay up to date with all things SRN please feel free to follow us.

Lastly, at the end of the 2017 ATS International meeting, we welcomed Dr. Jonathan Jun as the incoming Web Director as Dr. Shafazand and I will be stepping down from our roles at the conclusion of the ATS 2018 conference this year.

It has been a pleasure working in this role and it would not have been possible without the help from all of the sub-committee chairs and members as well as the SRN Executive committee. Looking forward to seeing you all in San Diego.

Sincerely,
Bradley Edwards, PhD, Shirin Shafazand, MD, MS, and Jonathan Jun, MD PhD.
SRN Web Committee Directors

### EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT
Omar Mesarwi, MD, Chair

The SRN Early Career Working Group aims to facilitate the development of young investigators with a broad academic interest in the field of sleep medicine. Our working group, comprised of eight individuals with ongoing or recently completed training in sleep medicine, has been involved with several projects:

1. Our group provides updates for the SRN Facebook page, which is the most followed page of the ATS Assemblies. The website is here: [https://www.facebook.com/ATSSRN/](https://www.facebook.com/ATSSRN/) - check it out for highlights about sleep-related research and information about upcoming SRN and ATS events.
2. We have expanded the ATS mentoring program in our Assembly this year, through outreach to new SRN members and to potential mentors. We are hoping this growth can continue in the coming years!
3. We are planning a breakfast at the ATS conference on Sunday May 20, from 7-8 am (location yet to be decided) to welcome our new SRN members, and to plan for upcoming Early Career Working Group events.
4. We are putting together a “Guide to Navigating the ATS Conference” for new members, with tips on attending sessions, networking, and building research collaborations. We hope to expand and continually update these guides for new members, to include topics like choosing a research or career mentor, how to prepare an abstract for presentation, how to get started on grant writing, and how to find a position in the field of sleep medicine.
5. We have been actively recruiting new members to submit Sleep Fragments for the Annals of the ATS.

The Early Career Working Group is strongly dedicated to fostering the talent and growth of the SRN Assembly by welcoming and encouraging new members to become involved! If you are interested in becoming a part of our group, or if you have some ideas for new projects, please contact me directly at omesarwi@ucsd.edu.

### DENTAL SLEEP MEDICINE INTEREST GROUP
James E. Metz, DDS, Chair

Dr. James Metz, DDS continues to lead our Dental Sleep Medicine Interest Group, which will be in its 5th year. **Sunday, May 20th** there will be an evening session at 5:30pm-7:30pm located in Balboa BC, Second Level, Seaport Tower at the Manchester Grand Hyatt, San Diego, beginning with a social hour and hors d'oeuvre for those interested. “The Lingual Tonsil,” presented by Olivier Vanderveken will be the keynote. The Lingual Tonsil’s contribution to OSA is significant but ignored. Others will present on the oral appliance and its relevance. Please let your dental colleagues know about this opportunity to learn and encourage him/her to attend! Thank you for all that you do!
**Dental Sleep Medicine**  
**Interest Group Meeting**  

*Sunday, May 20th*  
*5:30pm-7:30pm*  

*Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego*  
*Balboa BC*  
*Second Level, Seaport Tower*

**Assembly on**  
**Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology**  
**Membership Meeting**  

*Monday, May 21st*  
*5:00pm-7:00pm*  

*Manchester Grand Hyatt, San Diego*  
*Seaport Ballroom GH*  
*Second Level, Seaport Tower*

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

*Monday, May 21st*  
*7:00pm-10:00pm*  

*Manchester Grand Hyatt, San Diego*  
*Seaport Ballroom F*  
*Second Level, Seaport Tower*
Assembly Mentoring Programs’ Meeting Spot

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2018 ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA, 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 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in the Balboa A room on the Second Level in the Seaport Tower. The room will be available:
Sunday May 20th – Tuesday May 22nd, 2018 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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 FY2019!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2019. 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 Reena Mehra, MD at reena.mehra@case.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: https://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/video-lecture-series/index.php

2nd Annual ATS Walking Challenge

Walk for a good cause! Track steps and stay active with the Second Annual ATS Walking Challenge. 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. Click here for more details.
Invitation to Join ATS Signature Global Health Program: Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical and Operations Research (MECOR)

Loyal to its tagline, the American Thoracic Society helps the world breathe; the ATS has been working to build research capacity in low- and middle-income countries through its Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical, and Operations Research (MECOR) program for 25 years. This intensive course for physicians and related health care professionals increases capacity and leadership in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine research beyond its US borders and US membership.

This spring, the ATS launched MECOR 2.0, which includes a ground-up redesign of the curriculum, course organization, and faculty/mentorship offerings. The updated program capitalizes and builds upon the program's extensive experience and expertise. The curriculum utilizes a “flipped classroom” teaching model with seminar style classroom sessions and a focus on one to one instruction with a learning management system for students, faculty, and alumni (CANVAS).

Since its initiation in 1994, the scope of the ATS MECOR program has grown tremendously. Today, its footprint is truly global with more than 1800 graduates from its global network of courses. Courses and partners include in Africa, the Pan African Thoracic, in China, the Chinese Thoracic Society, in India, the US Centers for Disease Control and the Indian Council for Medical Research, in Indonesia, the Indonesian Society for Respirology, in the Mediterranean, the Turkish Thoracic Society, in Latin American the Latin American Thoracic Society, and in Southeast Asia, the Vietnamese National TB Program and the University of Sydney.

To join the ATS MECOR program as a faculty member or mentor, please use the link below to complete an application. For more information on the ATS MECOR Program, please go to the ATS website at:

ATS MECOR Program
ATS MECOR Faculty Application

Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2018 ATS International Conference in San Diego

If you’re developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Clinical Practice Guidelines, Policy Statements, Research Statements, Workshop Reports, or Technical Statements), please consider attending one or more of these opportunities while you are in San Diego at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop/Meeting: Friday, May 18th from 6-9 PM, Manchester Grand Hyatt, Golden Hill AB (Seaport Tower, 3rd Level). This session is required for all Guideline Panel Chairs and Chairs of new non-guideline projects. It is also recommended for Chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Anyone who is interested in Official ATS Documents is welcome to attend. Please RSVP to John Harmon at jharmon@thoracic.org if you have not already done so. A light dinner will be served.
  - 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
  - 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 to discuss your idea 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 21st from 7-8:30 PM, Manchester Grand Hyatt, Hillcrest AB (Seaport Tower, 3rd Level). The guideline methodology training program provides mentored training in the skills necessary to serve as a lead methodologist for a clinical practice guideline project. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the 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 22nd from 12:15-1:15pm. Registration is available through the Conference Registration Website.
Physicians planning to take the ABIM critical care MOC assessment have a new resource to prepare for the exam: the ATS Review for the Critical Care Boards

The ATS Review for the Critical Care Boards and Questions Book provide an in-depth review of critical care topics that will be on the American Board of International Medicine Critical Care Medicine Certification examination. Chapters include:

- Renal, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders
- Infectious Diseases
- Pharmacology and Toxicology
- Pulmonary Diseases
- Gastrointestinal Disorders
- Surgery, Trauma, and Transplantation
- Cardiovascular Disorders
- Neurologic Disorders
- Hematologic and Oncologic Disorders
- Ethics, Research and Administration

Learn more, order, and begin studying by visiting the ATS Store

Education Committee to offer Educational Consulting
Office Hours during the 2018 International Conference

- Are you planning to submit a proposal for programming at the 2019 International Conference, but don’t know where to start?
- Do you want to maximize your chances of having your Postgraduate Course Proposal programmed in 2019?
- Would you like to review feedback you received on a 2018 proposal that wasn’t programmed?
- Would you like feedback on a presentation you’re giving at this year’s International Conference?

If you answered ‘yes’ to any of the above, stop by the Science and Innovation Center, where members of the Education Committee will be available to answer questions, no appointment necessary. Consulting will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis on:

Monday 5/21 from 10-11AM, 12-1 PM, and 3-4 PM
Tuesday 5/22 from 10-11AM, 12-1PM, and 3-4PM
Wednesday 5/23 from 10-11AM, and 12-1PM

Restoring Joy in Health Care Booth

What does burnout look like and how can we change things personally and professionally for the better?

Explore the Restoring Joy in Health Care booth (#904) to crowd source ways to improve the professional environment, get a chair massage or visit with a therapy dog to bring you back to center. Therapy dogs are in the booth from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

Interactive booth in the Exhibit Hall (with puppies)
San Diego Convention Center
Hall C (Ground Level), Booth 904

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.
Help Available for Assembly Members on Clinical and Research Ethics and Conflict Management

The ATS Ethics and Conflict of Interest Committee is a society-wide committee appointed by the ATS President to be a resource and contribute to ATS education on biomedical and organizational ethics. Its seventeen members are from many ATS assemblies and sections, and many have leadership roles in their institution’s ethics committees, advanced degrees in medical or nursing ethics, and have published on related issues.

Assembly members are encouraged to use the committee for advice and help in developing programs, statements, and conference sessions relevant to clinical or research ethics or managing conflicts of interest (COI), as well as in dealing with the ethical issues you face in the workplace. In recent years, the committee developed ATS statements on Managing Conscientious Objections and Responding to Requests for Potentially Inappropriate Therapies, and produced podcasts on other topics that are available within the ATS Breathe Easy podcasts on the ATS website. It also oversees ATS management of COI. The Committee is chaired by David Chooljian, MD, JD. Questions and requests for help can go through the committee’s staff member, Shane McDermott, at smcdermott@thoracic.org or 212-315-8650.