The Section of Thoracic Oncology continues to grow in membership and to expand its activities. The status and progress of the Section was reviewed at the annual business meeting at the ATS meeting in Denver. Details of the meeting are in the attached presentation.

In brief, membership has grown to 466 and includes multinational physicians and scientists representing pulmonary medicine, thoracic surgery, radiology, basic and clinical sciences.

In following its mandate to enhance the role of ATS in advancing lung cancer research and clinical care, the Section has focused on Educational Programming, Training junior physicians, Promoting International and Multidisciplinary collaborations. We have made firm progress in all areas, yet there is much work to do. We initiated a new activity at the business meeting in which we held a membership discussion on a topic of high interest. This year Jim Jett led the discussion on Lung Cancer CT screening. A summary of the discussion can be found here. To support thoracic oncology research by young investigators, we were awarded four Travel awards to Section members that submitted meritorious abstracts to the Clinical Problems and RCMB assemblies. Details of the winners and their research can be found here.

A primary focus now is to help membership to develop and submit programming suggestions for the 2012 ATS International Conference call for input. The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2011. The categories for submissions include Postgraduate Courses, Scientific Symposia, Workshops, Meet the Professor sessions and Sunrise Seminars. To facilitate proposal development, the Section will host a conference call open to its members on an annual basis. The executive committee is happy to provide advice and input to anyone considering submitting a proposal. You can reach us at soto@thoracic.org.
Priority Topics for 2012 include, but are not limited to:

1. Chest CT Screening - nodule evaluation and health policy implications of implementation
2. Interventional Pulmonary innovations and integration with lung cancer management.
3. Targeted Therapy/Biomarkers
4. Biomass - International Lung Cancer Epidemiology
5. Interaction with Inflammation and COPD
6. Stem cells and Circulating Tumor Cells

Update Your Profile!

Have you moved, changed your title, added new skills, credentials or other information? ATS members can now update their contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile quickly and easily online with the Member Profile Update form.

Keeping your profile current ensures accuracy during the ATS International Conference registration process and also helps the ATS provide you with valuable member benefits. To streamline the process, the ATS has updated and combined demographic categories, which makes it easier for you to send us pertinent information to serve you better.

The Member Profile Update form is safe and secure, and your updates will be reflected immediately in our database. Please take a minute to login and update your member record today at http://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php?rl=https://thoracic.secure.force.com/MPU

At this same web link members can now also print their own, personalized membership certificate!