

Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF) Newsletter



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Message from the Assembly Chair

Dear RSF Members:

During the last twelve months we have all seen our communities and workplaces gradually adjust to the new “post-COVID” norm; with opening up, albeit at a different pace in different places. Some of the lessons and opportunities encountered during the pandemic will stay with us, including greater connectivity through the use of web based tools for educational and networking events. RSF, through the activities of our Early Career Professionals Working Group (ECP WG), Program Committee and the PhD and Basic and Translational Scientists Working Group (PBTS WG), has provided a wide range of activities in this arena which many members have engaged with.

We are looking forward to meeting again at the face-to-face ATS International Conference (May 19-24, 2023) and the RSF Assembly Membership Meeting (Sun, May 21, 2023) in Washington. This meeting will be a chance to renew contacts with friends and colleagues we may not have seen for quite a while and to celebrate RSF achievements. We invite all members to bring a guest, trainee, emerging investigator or established investigator along to the RSF business meeting to expand our networking opportunities. After the hard work of the Program Committee the abstract submission numbers for RSF have returned to levels similar to those seen prior to the pandemic. This is exciting news for the Assembly and will be reflected in the program content provided by RSF at the annual meeting – see below for details.

The ATS-RSF-Assembly continues to bring together a broad spectrum of basic and applied scientists, translational and clinical investigators, and clinicians who all share a passion for scientific discovery in respiratory physiology, disease pathogenesis and therapy as well as patient care. We are fortunate to continue to maintain a large representation of international members, women and minority groups, and young professionals and trainees within the RSF membership, covering wide expertise areas in basic and translational biology, clinical sciences, medical practice, allied health, industry and community sectors. We encourage the creativity, diversity and inclusiveness of our assembly and welcome all new members and ideas.

As always, we are keen to hear ideas from members of activities that can benefit RSF members. The Planning Committee is ready to support any members who are interested in developing ideas for projects that can be submitted through RSF. In addition, we are looking to assemble a library of images relevant to RSF. If you have any images that illustrate RSF or member activities, that you are happy to share please send them to me

(either directly by email or through using a large file transfer service if they are very large). Keep in mind that these images may be used for publicity on the web, so the copyright of the images should belong to you as the owner of the image and you should be prepared to allow RSF to use the image freely. I am looking forward to seeing the range of images of RSF at our business meeting in May.

All of the Committees within RSF have once again worked hard for the benefit of our members over the last twelve months. The chairs of the respective committees and working groups have summarized their activities below for your information.

I would like to thank all of the Executive Committee Chairs and Chair elects and their committee members whose tireless efforts made possible the accomplishments of the past year. Special shout-outs go to Blanca Camoretti-Mercado, PhD and Richard Johnston, PhD, for their time and advice. As a leadership team working in cohesion RSF is in a wonderful position to move forward.

Please join me in expressing appreciation to our outgoing RSF officers: Jason H. T. Bates, PhD and Kimberley C. W. Wang, PhD (Nominating Committee members), Matthew Drake, MD (Program Committee Chair), Tillie Hackett, PhD (Science and Innovation Center, Chair). It has been a pleasure and a honor to work with you; thank you for offering your services to RSF members.

Looking ahead we extend a hearty welcome to the incoming Program Committee Chair, Reinoud Gosens. PhD, and the incoming committee members, apprentices and mentees. We also congratulate the recipients of the 2023 RSF Assembly Awards, the Abstract Scholarship Awards and the Stuart J. Hirst Abstract Excellence Award. These awardees will be announced at the in-person RSF Membership Meeting on **Sunday, May 21, 2023**.

On behalf of the entire Executive Committee I gratefully acknowledge the invaluable assistance of Miriam Rodriguez, Senior Director of Assembly Programs and Program Review Subcommittee, Javier Guzman and the many dedicated ATS staff, for their support and guidance in ensuring the smooth progress of Assembly activities.

I hope to see many of you in person at the International Conference and the Assembly Membership Meeting. Please feel free to contact me (j.k.burgess@umcg.nl) with any question or to discuss an idea or initiative. Questions can also be directed to our Assembly Officers listed on the website ([RSF-Officers-Committees](#)).

Janette Burgess, PhD, ATSF
Assembly Chair

RSF Membership Meeting

Sunday, May 21, 2023
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Building Marriott Marquis DC
Room: Marquis Ballroom Salon 6
Floor: M2

American Thoracic Society

ASSEMBLIES




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PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Matthew G. Drake, MD (Chair) & Reinoud Gosens, PhD (Chair- Elect)

RSF Program Committee members have been hard at work this fall and winter reviewing, scoring and programming abstracts for ATS2023 in Washington, DC. Abstract submissions to RSF are trending towards pre-pandemic levels, consistent with that of other assemblies. In total, we received 395 abstract submission for ATS2023, of which 353 were scientific abstracts and 42 were case reports. Many thanks to the committee members for their invaluable input in generating the exciting sessions programmed for this year's conference.

RSF Program content for 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting:

Scientific Symposia:

- Processing the environment: lung lymphatics and follicles in disease
- Neuro-immune interactions in lung development and disease
- It's About TIME! The Circadian Clock in Lung Disease, From Bench to Bedside

Postgraduate Course:

- "Huffing and Puffing: Best Practice and State of the Art in CPET and PFT"

Meet the Expert:

- Biologics and Beyond: Understanding and managing severe asthma
- Complex in vitro models of the lung: bridging the gap between disease complexity and therapeutics

Jointly-Developed Symposia:

- Lung aging: why your FEV1 is falling and pneumonia is your final friend (RCMB/RSF)
- Obesity-related Asthma: Mechanistic studies begin to inform therapeutics (All/RSF)
- Imaging Biomarkers of Disease Modification in COPD: (CP/RSF)
- From genes to clinical trials: state-of-the-art approaches to heterogeneity in the ICU (CC/RSF)
- Transcriptomic profiling of pulmonary vascular lesions unravel mechanisms of pulmonary arterial hypertension (CP/RSF)
- Beyond Bioenergetics: cellular metabolism in lung health and disease (RCMB/RSF)
- Sex-specific mechanisms of lung disease pathogenesis through the lens of single cell RNA sequencing: scheduled Monday PM (RCMB/RSF)

Mini-Symposia:

- All That Wheezes: Translational Studies in Asthma
- Impact of COPD Across A Lifespan
- The Only Constant is Change: New Insights in Airway Remodeling
- Tell Me What You See: New Studies in Lung Imaging
- Clinical Trials in Chronic Lung Disease

Poster Discussion Sessions:

- The Long and Short of Long Covid
- New Insights into Obstructive Lung Disease
- Translational Research in IPF
- Breath (In the air): PFTs
- Even Better Than the Real Thing: Models of Lung Injury
- More Than Meets the Eye: Advanced Lung Imaging

Thematic Poster Sessions

- An Image's Worth...: Studies in Lung Imaging
- Relax Already!: Mechanistic Insights into Airway Smooth Muscle Biology
- Matters of the Heart...and Lungs: Studies on Cardiopulmonary Vascular Disease
- A Different Point of View: Lung Imaging in COPD
- Airway Injury and Repair: Mechanisms and Treatment

- Inhale the Future: New Findings in Pulmonary Function
- House of ARDS...And Mechanical Ventilatory Support
- Chest Disease Clinical Cases

The top 30 RSF trainee/student abstracts will receive ATS Scholarship Awards, and the Stuart J. Hirst Award for the top abstract in the area of airway biology and physiology has been selected; winners will be announced at the RSF membership meeting at the International Conference in May.

ATS 2023 International Conference Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF) Sessions

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Start Time	Session End Time
PG13	HUFFING AND PUFFING: BEST PRACTICE AND STATE OF THE ART IN CPET AND PFT	Postgraduate Course	5/20/2023	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
A17	TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE: NEW STUDIES IN LUNG IMAGING	Mini Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A69	AN IMAGE'S WORTH: STUDIES IN LUNG IMAGING	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A70	RELAX ALREADY! MECHANISTIC INSIGHTS INTO AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE BIOLOGY	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A71	MATTERS OF THE HEART...AND LUNGS: STUDIES ON CARDIOPULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A88	NEURO-IMMUNE INTERACTIONS IN LUNG DEVELOPMENT AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A108	NEW INSIGHTS INTO CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A99	CLINICAL TRIALS IN CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	Mini Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B20	THE ONLY CONSTANT IS CHANGE: NEW INSIGHTS INTO AIRWAY REMODELING	Mini Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
B30	BREATHE (IN THE AIR): STUDIES IN PULMONARY FUNCTION	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
B68	A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW: LUNG IMAGING IN COPD	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B69	AIRWAY INJURY AND REPAIR: MECHANISMS AND TREATMENT	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B70	INHALE THE FUTURE: NEW FINDINGS IN PULMONARY FUNCTION	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
MTE18	BIOLOGICS AND BEYOND: UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING SEVERE ASTHMA	Meet the Expert	5/22/2023	10:15 AM	11:15 AM
B85	PROCESSING THE ENVIRONMENT: LUNG LYMPHATICS AND FOLLICLES IN DISEASE	Basic Science Core	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B99	ALL THAT WHEEZES: TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES IN ASTHMA	Mini Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C29	MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE: ADVANCED LUNG IMAGING	RAPiD: Rapid Abstract Poster Discussion Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
C72	HOUSE OF ARDS...AND MECHANICAL VENTILATORY SUPPORT	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM

C73	CHEST DISEASE CLINICAL CASES	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C109	EVEN BETTER THAN THE REAL THING: ADVANCED MODELS OF LUNG DISEASE	Poster Discussion Session	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
D29	TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN IPF	Poster Discussion Session	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
D9	IT'S ABOUT TIME! THE CIRCADIAN CLOCK IN LUNG DISEASE, FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
MTE56	COMPLEX IN VITRO MODELS OF THE LUNG: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN DISEASE COMPLEXITY AND THERAPEUTICS	Meet the Expert	5/24/2023	11:00 AM	12:00 PM
D109	THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF LONG COVID	Poster Discussion Session	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
D97	IMPACT OF COPD ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Mini Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
B91	LUNG AGING: WHY YOUR FEV1 IS FALLING AND PNEUMONIA IS YOUR FINAL FRIEND	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM

ATS 2023 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Start	Session End
A11	CARING FOR HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED PATIENTS: ETHICAL, LEGAL AND ADVOCACY PRIMER FOR PROVIDERS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A10	ASTHMA HOT TOPIC 2023: WHICH "ICS PLUS BRONCHODILATOR" RELIEVER FOR WHICH PATIENT?	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A9	USING TECHNOLOGY TO SAVE THE BRAIN AND BODY: NOVEL INTERVENTIONS TO MANAGE PAIN, ANXIETY, DELIRIUM, AND PROMOTE MOBILITY IN ICU	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A8	BRONCHOPULMONARY DYSPLASIA ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A7	THE NEW ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR PULMONARY REHABILITATION	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A6	BEYOND TRANSCRIPTOMICS: THE NEXT FRONTIER IN COPD/EMPHYSEMA	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A89	CAN ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS CHANGE THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH?	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A87	NEW TREATMENT APPROACHES FOR BRONCHIECTASIS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM

A88	NEURO-IMMUNE INTERACTIONS IN LUNG DEVELOPMENT AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B12	ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES: CLINICAL PRACTICE ON THE CUTTING EDGE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B7	SICKLE CELL LUNG DISEASE ACROSS THE LIFESPAN: WHERE ARE WE NOW?	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B8	BEYOND THE LUNGS: EXTRAPULMONARY MANIFESTATIONS OF PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B11	GLOBAL INSIGHTS ON THE LONG-TERM SEQUELAE OF INFECTIONS: BEYOND COVID	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B9	SEX-SPECIFIC MECHANISMS OF LUNG DISEASE PATHOGENESIS THROUGH THE LENS OF SINGLE CELL RNA SEQUENCING	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B6	NON-PAP ALTERNATIVES FOR OSA: FROM ACCEPTED TO REVOLUTIONARY	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B10	REIGNITING THE CANCER MOONSHOT: ATS = MISSION CONTROL FOR LUNG CANCER	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B92	INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PERSONALIZED SEVERE ASTHMA MANAGEMENT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B90	IMPROVING THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF PEDIATRIC ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B88	LEAPS AND BOUNDS: REDUCING HEALTHCARE'S CARBON FOOTPRINT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B87	CONTROVERSIES IN PEDIATRIC OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA: A PRO/CON DEBATE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B89	TRANSCRIPTOMIC PROFILING OF PULMONARY VASCULAR LESIONS UNRAVEL MECHANISMS OF PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B86	PRECISION MEDICINE IN PNEUMONIA	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C11	ADVANCING CLINICAL ISSUES TO ATS AND CAPITOL HILL: THE OXYGEN THERAPY EXEMPLAR	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C6	DISPARITIES IN RESPIRATORY GENOMICS RESEARCH: STRATEGIES TO ADVANCE SCIENCE AND CLINICAL CARE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C5	DISMANTLING STRUCTURAL RACISM FROM RISK AND DISEASE PREDICTION IN PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C8	NEW CONCEPTS AND UPDATE IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF NTM AND TB INFECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C9	REHABILITATION FOR THE POST-COVID POPULATION	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C10	OPIOID USE DISORDER, SLEEP DEFICIENCY, AND VENTILATORY CONTROL: BIDIRECTIONAL MECHANISMS AND THERAPEUTIC TARGETS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM

C7	CANCER IN THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER SMOKED: NEW INSIGHTS FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C89	ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY: REDUCING THE IMPACT OF SDOH THROUGH RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C85	A PATH TOWARDS A MORE DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C88	BIOLOGICAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C87	A MEASURED RESPONSE: ASSESSING TREATMENT OUTCOMES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C86	BEYOND THE TRANSCRIPTOME: HOW THE MULTI-"OMIC" UNIVERSE PROVIDES NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO IPF/ILD PATHOGENESIS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
D5	REVISITING BEST BUY INTERVENTIONS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASES IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D6	OBESITY-RELATED ASTHMA: MECHANISTIC STUDIES BEGIN TO INFORM THERAPEUTICS	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D10	AN AGE-FRIENDLY FRAMEWORK FOR CARING FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D7	WANT TO BE AN ADVOCATE FOR LUNG HEALTH? LEARN FROM SUCCESS!	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D8	UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS: OMICS AND DEEP PHENOTYPING IN PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D9	IT'S ABOUT TIME! THE CIRCADIAN CLOCK IN LUNG DISEASE, FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D11	THE EVOLVING ROLE FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY IN LUNG CANCER	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D86	HUMANS, ANIMALS, THE ENVIRONMENT: WHY IS THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH NEEDED FOR EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES?	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D87	THE UN HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TB 2023: A CHANCE TO BEAT THIS PARTICULAR PANDEMIC	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D88	BEYOND BIOENERGETICS: CELLULAR METABOLISM IN LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D89	OSA-ASSOCIATED INFLAMMATION AND COMORBIDITIES: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Carrie E Perlman, PhD (Chair)

The RSF Planning Committee has two major activities. First, the Committee manages the Assembly awards process and reviews award nominations for five of the Assembly's six awards – all but the Best Abstract award. Second, the Committee reviews proposals for ATS projects that result in official ATS documents that help guide the direction of pulmonary research and clinical practice.

The major recent activity of the Planning Committee has been to restructure the Assembly's awards. Previously, the Assembly offered two junior-level awards, the Woolcock and the Science and Innovation Center's Rising Star (two awards available), and three senior-level awards, the Crapo, Rodarte and Permutt. Further, the Rising Star was awarded to 1-2 runners-up for the Woolcock, thus was limited in scope to the Woolcock research area of asthma and obstructive airway disease. The Planning Committee has now separated the Rising Star award from the Woolcock so that these awards are now open to all RSF-related research areas and converted the Crapo award into a mid-level award focused on innovative methodology that furthers understanding of the respiratory structure-function relationship. With these changes, RSF will be able to use its awards to better recognize outstanding work of members across all research areas and all career stages. The first recipients of the modified Rising Star and Crapo awards will be recognized, along with all other awardees, at the RSF business meeting at the International Conference in Washington, D.C., in May.

RSF currently has active projects on four topics: quantitative imaging metrics for pulmonary pathophysiology, technical standards for measuring lung volumes, race/ethnicity in pulmonary function testing and Ph.D.s in clinical departments. These projects are all expected to result in document publication in the coming year. The deadline for new project submissions will be in early August. Please consider proposing a project that will culminate in a workshop report, a research statement, a technical statement, a policy statement or clinical practice guidelines in an area of interest to the RSF membership.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself (cperlman@stevens.edu) or members of the Planning Committee ([RSF-Officers- Committees](#)) for assistance and with any questions.

Assembly/Committee Project Applications for FY2024

Assembly members interested in submitting a Project application should start developing their ideas. Applications for NEW Assembly Projects for 2024 will accepted July 1 through July 31, 2023.

If you have an idea or suggestion for a project application and need assistance, please contact your **Assembly Planning Committee Chair Carrie E Perlman, PhD** at cperlman@stevens.edu

For questions regarding submissions, please see the Project Application Resource Center, or contact Miriam Rodriguez at: (212)315-8639 or mrodriguez@thoracic.org

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Sergey Gutor, PhD, MD (Chair)

The Early Career Professionals Working Group of the Respiratory Structure and Function Assembly (RSF) is providing a platform and tools to help advance the careers of graduate students, postdocs, clinical fellows and junior faculty and professionals. Furthermore, ECP WG offers apprenticeship opportunities, a mentoring program, and other resources to maximize exposure at ATS and in the scientific community. At the same time, we are working on establishing new tools and are open to ideas from RSF ECP community (please, stay tuned for surveys and emails).

The apprenticeship program is designed to provide early career Assembly members with the opportunity to be directly involved in guiding the future of the ATS. Three apprentices are chosen every year, one each for the Program, Planning,

and Web Committees. The RSF Mentoring Program is to be launched in February of 2023 for the upcoming year (2023-2024). It is a program that allows students and trainees to network with mentors who are established in their careers. For 2022-2023, there were 7 successfully matched pairs of mentor-mentees. We are always looking for new mentors and mentees. Potential mentees, if you are interested, keep tuned in for ATS and RSF announcements to sign up. New potential mentors, please do not hesitate to contact ATS's Coordinator Nicole Feijoo at nfeijoo@thoracic.org.

For the first time RSF participated in the ATS Assemblies Teaching Competition that was held at ATS 2022 and RSF Assembly member Laura Walkup won the Competition! The applications are now open for those who may be interested in being considered to represent RSF for 2023. ECP WG members, including Laura, will be available and happy to help in an application preparation!

We are excited to report that we released 5 ECP Highlights since ATS 2022. We encourage ECP members to take advantage of this platform as it highlights the achievements of the young professionals within RSF! The ECP highlights may be found on the RSF website ([rsf/eyp-highlights/](https://www.thoracic.org/education/eyp-highlights/)). To learn more, please contact Katrina Tonga at katrina.tonga@sydney.edu.au.

We are delighted that the ECP WG has had several new members in 2022-23 and we have exciting updates to report. For 2022-2023, we held meetings every month, with about 9-10 attendees at each meeting. When we began planning activities for the 2022-23 year, we started with discussing ideas for proposal submissions to RSF. Three symposium proposals and one Meet the Expert session was submitted by ECP WG members (Sergey Gutor, Emmanuel Osei, Peter Niedbalski, and Brandon Lewis). Dr. Emmanuel Osei's Meet the Expert Seminar "COMPLEX IN VITRO MODELS OF THE LUNG: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN DISEASE COMPLEXITY AND THERAPEUTICS" was accepted for the ATS 2023. Next, the abstract guidelines were revised by Laura Walkup and may be found on the RSF website.

We have put together a series of journal clubs that is focused on highlighting the published work of the RSF ECP members to introduce published results by ECP members to RSF Assembly, strengthen the overall knowledge of subject area and RSF Assembly of attendees, facilitate feedback and discussion among ECP and invited RSF Assembly experts, and provide a platform for networking within RSF Assembly. Brandon Lewis is doing an amazing job organizing this series, please contact him at Brandon.Lewis@nationwidechildrens.org if you are interested in presenting your recently published article!

In 2022-2023 we have continued to work closely with the Web Committee. Collectively, we have discussed ideas for podcasts, journal clubs and utilization of social media to promote RSF activities. A big shout out to David Mummy who has been the avid RSF Tweeter and Chetana Pendkar who brought fresh air to RSF Facebook page.

We would also like to acknowledge the continued guidance of the previous Chair of the ECP WG, Sana Siddiqui during this past year and for all the help we have received from Nicole Feijoo from ATS. If you would like to learn more or get involved in the ECP WG, please do not hesitate to contact Sergey Gutor (sergey.gutor@vumc.org).



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Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? The Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentees to meet.

Renaissance Hotel

(Lobby level: Red Bud Room)

Sunday, May 21 – Monday, May 22 from 7 am to 7 pm

Please note, this space is exclusively for Mentoring Program participants*

ATS Contact- Nicole Feijoo at NFeijoo@thoracic.org

WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT

Patel Suhani, BSc, MSc (Website Director)

Since the 2022 International Conference, the Web Committee has kept us abreast of RSF-specific announcements and events via Facebook, Twitter, and our Assembly webpage on the ATS website. We specifically thank Sergey Gutor, Ph.D., David Mummy, Ph.D., Katrina Tonga, Ph.D., and our Web Committee Apprentice, Chetana Pendkar, M.D., for their exceptional efforts in maintaining and updating our Assembly's social media and web presence.

During the past year, the RSF sponsored or co-sponsored three webinars:

- **June 8, 2022** – Research and Clinical Advances in Lymphangioliomyomatosis (LAM): A Rare Neoplastic Disease of Women
- **February 14, 2023** – Technology Development: Translating Innovation from Bench to Bedside (Part 4: **Advances in Digital Technology for Lung Health**)
- **February 24, 2023** – Identification of Lung Innervating Sensory Neurons and Their Target Specificity

and two Journal Clubs:

- **October 18, 2022** – Chronic Allergen Challenge Induces Corticosteroid Insensitivity with Persistent Airway Remodeling and Type 2 Inflammation by Lewis *et al.*, *Front Pharmacol*, 2022
- **January 31, 2023** – [COL4A3 Expression in Asthmatic Epithelium Depends on Intronic Methylation and ZNF263 Binding](#) by Nemani *et al.*, *ERS Open Res*, 2021

Through the Web Committee's Early Career Professional (ECP) Highlights, the Assembly was introduced to six RSF ECP members this past year, including Peter Niedbalski, Ph.D., John McDonough, Ph.D., Laura L. Walkup, Ph.D., Sergey Gutor, M.D., Ph.D., Sneha Nemani, M.Sc., and Brandon W. Lewis, M.S., Ph.D.

Finally, on February 1, 2023, Richard A. Johnston, Ph.D., ATSF, was appointed RSF Website Director. We are currently searching for enthusiastic professionals at all levels within the Assembly to join our Web Committee, whose goal is to generate innovative ideas to enhance the value of the Assembly's website and to expand the social media and web footprint of RSF. No technical expertise in web design, etc. is required to join the Committee. If interested, please contact Richard Johnston via e-mail (rfj1@cdc.gov).

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Connie Hsia, MD, ATSF (Chair)

We have a full slate of outstanding candidates for several position: the Assembly Chair-Elect, the Program Committee Chair-Elect, and two Nominating Committee Members. This promises to be a very close election. The new officers will be announced during the RSF Business Meeting on Sunday, May 21 from 5-7 PM. We thank our colleagues who accepted the nomination to run for these important Assembly positions. I am extremely grateful to the current Nominating Committee members, Drs. Jason H. T. Bates and Kimberley C. W. Wang, for their dedication to the nomination process and for reaching out to the candidates. It is an honor for us to serve the Assembly in this capacity.

PH.D. AND BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENTIST WORKING GROUP REPORT

James Londino, PhD & Samantha Yeligar, PhD, MS (Co-Chairs)

The Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group (PBTS WG) has been in existence since January 1, 2019 and is charged with enhancing the value of ATS membership for basic and translational scientists, specifically Ph.D. scientists. The PBTS WG consists of thirty-six members that are drawn from each of the fourteen ATS Assemblies. The WG meets monthly via Zoom to discuss issues of importance to (1) non-clinical ATS members (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) and (2) research-intensive physician-scientists. The current co-chairs of the PBTS WG are Drs. Samantha Yeligar (Assembly on PI-TB) and James Londino (Assembly on RCMB). Despite

consisting of members from all fourteen ATS Assemblies, the Assembly on RSF is the administrative home for the PBTS WG, and we are very thankful to the Assembly on RSF for their strong and continuing support of our efforts.

During the past year, the PBTS WG has been extraordinarily active in developing programs for its constituency as well as devising strategies to recruit Ph.D. scientists to the Society. We have highlighted some of the WG's efforts in the subsequent text.

- 1. Research Integrity.** There is a need for formally recognized research integrity training for basic science and translational researchers as scientific organizations increasingly require training be specified in grant applications and for fellowships. The Research Integrity subcommittee, headed by Thomas Mariani, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB), was formed with the goal of promoting ATS as a recognized leader among professional societies in promoting the basic principles of Research Integrity through education, information dissemination and collaboration and to make integrity a part of all ATS members' research practices, procedures, and processes.
- 2. Seminar.** With the goal of highlighting Ph.D. scientists and innovative methods/techniques in a seminar format, the Seminar subcommittee was formed under the co-leadership of Nicholas Jendzjowsky, Ph.D. (Assembly on All) and Lindsay McDonald, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The planned structure for 2-3 seminars per year with the co-sponsorship of assemblies within the ATS is a discussion of the research, preferably by a Ph.D. early career scientist, followed by discussion. We are also reaching out to stake holders in funding agencies to discuss how research techniques fit into their funding portfolio.
- 3. Survey.** To understand the rationale as to why Ph.D. scientists attend the ATS International Conference but are not ATS members, Janette Burgess, Ph.D., ATSF (Assembly on RSF) has assembled a subcommittee of PBTS WG members to design a survey to answer this question. This survey will be distributed to all 2023 ATS International Conference attendees who hold a Ph.D. or equivalent and spend 50% or more of their time in research yet are not currently ATS members. The PBTS WG hopes to use the survey data to understand how the ATS and PBTS WG can be best equipped to address their needs.
- 4. Equity and ATS Opportunities.** Under the co-leadership of Carolyn Cannon, M.D., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB) and Melissa Valerio-Shewmaker, M.D., M.P.H. (Assembly on BSHSR), among several focuses, the Equity and ATS Opportunities subcommittee is working on emphasizing a parity in the fee structure for Ph.D. scientists at the conference. This subcommittee has also worked with the ATS Health Equity and Diversity Committee to help promote diversity.
- 5. Assembly Project.** On behalf of the PBTS WG, Bethany Moore, Ph.D., ATSF spearheaded the development and submission of an Assembly Project through the Assembly on RSF entitled "Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities and ATS Membership". This project addressed the perception that many Ph.D. scientists contribute to the mission of subspecialty clinical divisions within Departments of Medicine and of Pediatrics, yet barriers exist for them to attain tenure-track faculty status. By convening a virtual meeting in 2022 of Medical School Deans, Department Chairs, Division Directors, NIH Administrators, and Ph.D. scientists with a vested interest in adult and pediatric pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine, the organizers of this project hoped to demonstrate to Division Directors the importance of including Ph.D. scientists in their hiring plan and providing the necessary support for their ultimate success. A manuscript, currently in revision, detailing the contributions of Ph.D. scientists in clinical departments came out of this project's successful completion.
- 6. Brochure.** Along with graphic designers at the ATS, a PBTS WG subcommittee headed by James Londino, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) has put together a two-sided brochure highlighting the advantages of ATS membership for Ph.D. scientists. This brochure specifically targets Ph.D. scientists who attend the ATS International Conference but who are not currently ATS members. A hard copy of this brochure will be available at various locales at the 2023 ATS International Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, an electronic version will be available online.

7. PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Collaboration Events. On February 8, 2022, PBTS WG members, Natalie Bauer, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) and Samantha Yeligar, M.S., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB), co-chaired a networking event along with the SIC entitled “Successful Collaborations”. At this event, two U.S.- and two European (U.K.)-based M.D. and Ph.D. scientific collaborators discussed how their professional scientific relationship evolved and became successful. Afterwards, participants went into separate breakout rooms for an in-depth discussion on the formation and endurance of these collaborations with either the U.S.- or European (U.K.)-based collaborators. The PBTS WG/SIC hope to provide more Ph.D.-centric events in the upcoming year. In addition, the PBTS WG co-hosted the Science and Innovation Center Ph.D. Reception at the 2022 ATS International Conference in San Francisco, CA.

8. Awards. A PBTS WG Awards subcommittee was established and is co-chaired by Karen Ridge, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) and Anne-Karina Perl, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The purpose of this subcommittee is to identify and nominate worthy basic and translational scientists (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) for the annual Assembly- and ATS-wide awards.

Finally, if you would like to become involved with the PBTS WG or have any issues you feel that WG could effectively address, please feel free to e-mail either Samantha Yeligar (samantha.yeligar@emory.edu) or James Londino (james.londino@osumc.edu).

Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers

Sunday, May 21 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. The reception will be held in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center (Reception area in Hall D, Level 2). There will be food provided and activities during the event will include an opportunity to get to meet and network with other scientists, to engage with leaders from the ATS and assemblies and to provide feedback regarding activities or programs that ATS could offer to benefit the basic and translational science members, especially those who are not also clinicians.

Register Here: <https://conference.thoracic.org/program/events/reception-phd-other-basic-science-researchers.php>

BASIC SCIENCE CORE

Jason Woods & Ramaswamy Krishnan

Our representatives in the Basic Science Core, Jason Woods, PhD and Ramaswamy Krishnan, PhD, helped plan 2 sessions on the theme of “Mechanisms That Integrate Responses to Environmental Exposures” at the 2023 International Conference. One session centers on quantification of environmental exposures using modern methods, and the other is focused on physiological and cellular impact.

SIC SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS FOR RSF

Sonali Bose and Chris Pascoe

Since its inception in 2012, the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) has become a space for ATS members to network and learn the latest innovations in science. The SIC also has a strong focus on mentoring junior investigators involved in basic science research.

The current RSF SIC-leads, Sonali Bose MD/MPH and Christopher Pascoe PhD have been collaborating with members from the ATS assemblies Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation (All), Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB), Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PI-TB), Pediatrics (PEDS), Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology (SRN) and Pulmonary Circulation (PC) assemblies, as well as with members from the PhD and Basic Translational Scientists

working groups. This diverse group has worked hard to program exciting content on cutting-edge technologies in all fields of basic lung research, mentorship strategies, and early-career professional development tools.

The full program will soon be published in the ATS app. For now, here's a sneak-peek at some of the content that will be presented this May at the ATS conference:

SIC Awards Session – a key event in the SIC program. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will be revealing the RSFs choice for the “Rising Stars in Lung Research Award” as well as the most Innovative Abstract Award by an Early Career Professional (ECP). So please come and join us to celebrate the best of the junior faculty and trainees within the ATS.

Reception for PhDs & Other Basic and Translational Science Researchers – this popular session is back and provides an opportunity to connect with colleagues and friends alike.

Research and Discovery Presentations – our diverse committee has programmed an exciting lineup of cutting-edge scientific symposia to attend. This year's sessions include:

- Linking lung development and carcinogenesis: From pathways to LungMAP and the Precancer Atlas
- Novel imaging techniques for assessment of pulmonary diseases including ILD, asthma and COPD
- Novel computational approaches to analyze your data
- Not all that it seems: the heterogeneity of the cellular immune response across a spectrum of acute exposures and infection.
- Pneumonia sub-phenotypes: multiple different paths to susceptibility and severity
- Flow cytometric analysis of lung structural cells: technical challenges and strategies
- Technical and biological innovations for unraveling lung macrophage heterogeneity
- Which microbes matter? Identifying pathogens that worsen early stage respiratory diseases

Career Development – a key goal of the SIC is to provide junior investigators with seminars geared towards topics in career development. This year's topic is I am a mid-career investigator. And now what?

We look forward to seeing you in May. To keep up-to-date with the latest SIC news, please follow @AtsSic on Twitter for updates and live tweets. For any questions please contact Sonali or Chris (sonasona99@gmail.com, Christopher.pascoe@umanitoba.ca)

If you are PhD, Basic Scientist, post-doc, or early career professional, come on down to the Science and Innovations Center for this networking hour! There will be lots of opportunities to meet new people, make new connections, establish new collaborations, and share career development experiences and advice. Plus, there will be free appetizers and drinks!



“Structure significantly influences behavior, thereby dramatically impacting results.”

Chris Hutchinson

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ATS GUIDELINE METHODOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM

Kevin Wilson

The ATS has a Guideline Methodology Training Program that provides hands-on training in guideline development. An informational program is being held on Monday, May 22nd from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Mint Room (meeting level 4) of the Marriott Marquis. Anyone who is interested in learning more about clinical practice guideline development and the ATS training program is welcome to attend. Light appetizers will be served. Please RSVP to kwilson@thoracic.org. Space is limited.

Additional information:

Clinical practice guideline development has changed dramatically over the past two decades. Formal standards must now be met as defined by the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Medicine), which include a specific approach to identifying evidence, summarizing evidence, formulating recommendations, and rating both the quality of evidence and the strength of the recommendations. The ATS and other guideline developers have learned that to successfully adhere to these standards, a guideline methodologist is necessary on each guideline committee. Guideline methodologists are individuals who are capable of leading systematic reviews (i.e., develop search strategies, select studies, extract data, perform meta-analyses, and construct evidence tables and summary of findings tables) and leading the formulation and grading of evidence-based recommendations. The requirement that there be a methodologist on every guideline committee has created an imbalance, with the demand for methodologists far exceeding the supply. As organizations move toward continuously updating guidelines and demand increases, this imbalance will worsen.

To combat this trend and build methodological capacity, the ATS has a methodology training program that takes individuals who have an interest in learning guideline methodology and places them on a guideline panel that needs methodological support. The trainee does the hands-on methodological work for the panel with guidance from the ATS methodologist and, in return, gains experience and middle co-authorship on the guideline. After working on one or two such guideline projects, the trainee will likely have the skills necessary to become an independent methodologist. We believe that this is a potential career pathway, particularly well-suited for clinician educators. Additional benefits of the program include a) systematic reviews performed during the development of the guideline are often publishable as independent entities and the trainee would be the first author on such derivatives, and b) participation in a methodology training workshop.

For more information on the training program, see Wilson KC, et al. American Thoracic Society Guideline Methodology Training Program. *ATS Scholar* 2022; 3(3): 379-389. Available at <https://www.atsjournals.org/doi/full/10.34197/ats-scholar.2022-0037PS>.