

Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF) Newsletter



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Message from the Assembly Chair

Dear RSF Members:

Since we last gathered together for the ATS Annual Scientific Meeting in Washington in May 2023 the RSF Assembly has been active throughout the year. Our Early Career Professionals Working Group (ECP WG), Program Committee, Web Committee and the PhD and Basic and Translational Scientists Working Group (PBTS WG), have provided a wide range of web-based activities in which many members have engaged. These have served to highlight strengths of RSF and also provide avenues to stimulate discussion and engage ATS leadership in conversation about issues important for RSF members.

The ATS-RSF-Assembly continues to provide a central networking hub for 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.

The past twelve months have seen the ATS and its members engage in a series of thought provoking discussions. While it is challenging to discuss topics that invoke strong, and sometimes diverse opinions, it is important for everyone to recognise that ATS's core values are the protection of its members, staff and the patients for whom we all work to improve outcomes. The ongoing security and success of the ATS is essential for ensuring that fulfilling all parts of its mission continues to be possible.

Once again we are excited to be preparing to meet at the ATS International Conference (May 17-22, 2024) and the RSF Assembly Membership Meeting (Sun, May 19, 2024) in San Diego. 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. I would like to personally invite all members to bring a (or more than one) guest, trainee, emerging investigator or established investigator along to the RSF membership meeting to expand our networking opportunities. For those interesting in networking we will be running an RSF Bingo in the lead up to our membership meeting – see details at the end of this newsletter or pick up a sheet as you enter the meeting room.

The RSF Program Committee has, once again, been extremely active in promoting our assembly during the abstract submission period, which is reflected in the increased numbers of abstracts submitted for RSF reviewing. This is exciting news for the Assembly and is reflected in the program content provided by RSF that will be part of the annual meeting – see later for details. Thanks to all members of the program committee for their hard work again this year.

We always like to hear from RSF members about their ideas relating to activities that can benefit RSF members. The Planning Committee is particularly keen to support any members who are interested in developing ideas for projects that can be submitted through RSF. We are also looking into establishing a virtual networking event for all RSF members (and any other interested persons) that will extend around the globe – watch the RSF communication channels for details soon.

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Assembly Chair1-2

Program Committee Report.....2-5

Planning Committee Report5

Early Career Professionals6-7

Website Committee Report.....7-8

Nominating Report.....8

PhD, Basic & Translational Scientists Working Group Report.....8-9

Basic Science Core....10

SIC Summary of Proceedings for RSF.....10

Assembly on Respiratory Structure & Function Bingo...11

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, Committee/Working Group Chairs and Chair elects and their committee members whose tireless efforts made possible the accomplishments of the past year. With such a strong 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: Grace Parraga, PhD and Jin-Ah, PhD (Nominating Committee members), Carrie Perlman, PhD (Planning Committee Chair), Reinoud Gosens, PhD (Program Committee Chair), Chris Pascoe, 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 an enthusiastic welcome to the incoming Program Committee Chair, Sonali Bose, MD, 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 19, 2024**. I would like to highlight to the membership our new award criteria for the Dr. Robert Crapo Memorial Innovative Research Methodologies Award which is awarded to recognize a mid-career researcher who is developing new techniques or approaches that show potential for markedly enhancing our understanding of the respiratory structure-function relationship. I am proud that RSF now has awards across the full career spectrum, and would like to encourage members to nominate colleagues, mentees, or mentors who are at the mid-career level for this award.

As this is my last newsletter as chair of the Assembly, I would like to thank everyone who has worked alongside me during my tenure. I hope this period will be thought of as a productive one for RSF. I would like to wish incoming chair of the Assembly Jason Woods success in his role. I know he will continue to lead RSF with thoughtfulness and balance, striving to ensure RSF remains strong and vibrant.

On behalf of the entire Executive Committee I gratefully acknowledge the invaluable assistance, once again throughout 2023/2024 of Miriam Rodriguez, Managing Director of Assembly, Research and Award Programs, 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 19, 2024
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Building: Marriott Marquis
Room: Grand Ballroom 5-6
Floor: Second Floor, Lobby Level

American Thoracic Society

ASSEMBLIES



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PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Reinoud Gosens, PhD (Chair) & Sonali Bose, MD (Chair- Elect)

RSF Program Committee members have been hard at work this fall and winter reviewing, scoring and programming abstracts for ATS2024 in San Diego, CA. Abstract submissions to RSF are trending towards pre-pandemic levels, consistent with that of other assemblies. In total, we received 408 abstract submissions for ATS2024, of which 364 were scientific abstracts and 44 were case reports. Many thanks to the committee members for their invaluable input in generating the exciting sessions programmed for this year's conference.

ATS 2024 International Conference Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF) Sessions

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Start Time	Session End Time
PG5	LET ME CATCH MY BREATH: BEST PRACTICES IN PULMONARY FUNCTION TESTING	Postgraduate Course	5/17/2024	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG16	FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE LUNG: A STATE OF THE ART REVIEW OF OLD AND EMERGING TOOLS	Postgraduate Course	5/18/2024	12:00 PM	4:00 PM
A18	FIXING WHAT'S BROKEN: NOVEL THERAPEUTICS FOR LUNG REMODELING	Mini Symposium	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
A29	WHAT IS YOUR DAMAGE? IMAGING-BASED PHENOTYPES OF COPD	Poster Discussion Session	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
A75	REVISITING CURRENT METHODS IN PULMONARY FUNCTION TESTING	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
A76	ASSESSING RISKS AND OUTCOMES IN INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
MTE2	BIOLOGIC THERAPIES IN SEVERE ASTHMA: WHICH AGENT FOR WHAT PATIENT	Meet the Expert	5/19/2024	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
A109	I JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH: DEFECTS IN VENTILATION AND GAS EXCHANGE	RAPiD Poster Discussion Session	5/19/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A89	MECHANICAL FORCES IN LUNG DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/19/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A99	LOOKING UNDER THE HOOD: DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS TO PHENOTYPE SEVERE ASTHMA	Mini Symposium	5/19/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B30	SCARRED FOR LIFE: TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN INTERSTITIAL ABNORMALITIES AND LUNG FIBROSIS	Poster Discussion Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
B77	NEW APPROACHES IN LUNG VENTILATION	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B78	A DEEPER DIVE INTO EXERCISE	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B79	AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE IN ASTHMA	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B80-1	METHODOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS IN PULMONARY IMAGING	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B80-2	ABNORMALITIES IN STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION IN COPD	Thematic Poster Session	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
B9	50 YEARS OF DYSANAPSIS: WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED AND WHERE WE ARE GOING	Scientific Symposium	5/20/2024	9:15 AM	10:45 AM
MTE17	COMPLEX IN VITRO MODELS OF THE LUNG: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN COMPLEX LUNG PATHOBIOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS	Meet the Expert	5/20/2024	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
B86	AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH: HEALTH DISPARITIES AND HEALTH CARE INEQUALITY IN RESPIRATORY MEDICINE	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/20/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B91	WHERE ARE THEY NOW? FUNCTIONAL LUNG IMAGING NEARING CLINICAL APPLICATION	Scientific Symposium	5/20/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C20	HAVING A GROWTH MINDSET: REPROGRAMMING CELLULAR PATHWAYS TO DISEASE	Mini Symposium	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM
C29	ADVANCED LUNG IMAGING; THE PULMONARY PAPAIAZZI	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	11:15 AM

C71	ASTHMA CLINICAL PHENOTYPES AND THERAPIES	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C72	CASE REPORTS IN RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C73	PRECLINICAL MODELING OF PULMONARY INFLAMMATION AND EMPHYSEMA	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C74	CYSTIC FIBROSIS AND NON-CF BRONCHIECTASIS	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C75	STRUCTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL CONSEQUENCES OF COVID	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	4:15 PM
C90	WHAT'S FAT GOT TO DO WITH IT? NEW EVIDENCE FOR THE INFLUENCE OF OBESITY ON CHRONIC AIRWAYS DISEASE	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/21/2024	9:15 AM	10:45 AM
C84	NOVEL AND NEGLECTED ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES AND LUNG HEALTH	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C99	I CAN SEE THE FUTURE: NOVEL WAYS TO PREDICT COPD	Mini Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
D30	A NARROW ROAD TO AIRWAY HYPERRESPONSIVENESS	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	10:15 AM
D9	LINKING NOVEL MULTI-OMICS WITH MACHINE LEARNING TO UNLOCK LUNG PATHOPHYSIOLOGY	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D109	NOW WE GOT BAD BLOOD: RSF/PC JOINT SESSION ON PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
D97	FEELING STUCK? MECHANISMS OF MUCOCILIARY (DYS)FUNCTION	Mini Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	1:00 PM

ATS 2024 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Start Time	End Time
C88	HEALTH EQUITY ACROSS PEDIATRIC PULMONARY DISEASES	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C89	HIV-RELATED LUNG DISEASE: UPDATES IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY, CLINICAL TRIALS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C86	PULMONARY REHABILITATION - KEEPING THE WHEEL ROLLING FORWARD	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2024	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
D11	ON THE HORIZON: NEW, NOVEL, AND CUTTING EDGE FOR NONTUBERCULOUS MYOBACTERIA (NTM)	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D6	WHAT CAUSES SARCOIDOSIS?	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D5	TIME-LIMITED TRIALS IN CRITICAL CARE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D7	WHERE CHILDREN LEARN AND BREATHE: THE IMPACT OF SCHOOL-BASED EXPOSURES ON CHILDHOOD RESPIRATORY HEALTH	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D8	GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT? AN ATS/ERS JOINT SYMPOSIUM	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D9	LINKING NOVEL MULTI-OMICS WITH MACHINE LEARNING TO UNLOCK LUNG PATHOPHYSIOLOGY	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM

D10	TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK: MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES FOR HIGH-QUALITY LUNG CANCER SCREENING	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
CS1	CHAIR SYMPOSIUM	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
D83	RESPIRATORY HEALTH IMPACTS OF HUMAN MADE DISASTERS AND NATURAL DISEASTERS, WILDFIRES, EARTHQUAKES, AND VOLCANOES.	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
D84	EMERGENT RESISTANCE TO NEW DRUGS FOR MDR-TB TREATMENT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
D85	ONE TO RULE THEM ALL? IMMUNE CELLS CONTROL STEM CELL CAPACITY IN THE LUNG	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
D86	AMBULATORY CRITICAL CARE: A BENCH TO BEDSIDE UNDERSTANDING OF CHRONIC RESPIRATORY FAILURE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2024	11:00 AM	12:30 PM

The top 30 RSF trainee/student abstracts will receive ATS Scholarship Awards, 4 abstracts have been selected for primary ciliary dyskinesia foundation 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.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Carrie E. Perlman, PhD (Chair) and Laura Walkup, PhD (Co-Chair)

We hope you have had a good year. We wish to take this opportunity to remind you of the Planning Committee's activities.

One major role of the Planning Committee is to perform preliminary review of [ATS Project Applications](#) from RSF members before the applications are forwarded to the ATS Project Review Committee. At the Assembly level, the Planning Committee provides constructive feedback to strengthen project applications. Projects generally result in publication of ATS-endorsed documents that provide guidelines for pulmonary research or clinical practice. Examples of recent RSF-led projects include technical standards for single-breath CO measurement and a workshop on quantitative imaging to assess pulmonary pathophysiology. While ATS projects tend to skew toward clinical topics, the RSF membership has great strength in the basic sciences. In the next year, we aim to increase the number of basic-science projects. Do you have an idea for a research practice or methodology that should be publicized and promoted? Please contact us as soon as possible— in advance of the early-August deadline— to discuss submission of a project proposal.

The other major committee role is to review nominations for the [RSF Awards](#), excepting abstract awards. The RSF Awards recognize the research, clinical practice, and mentoring contributions of RSF members across all career stages and areas of professional interest. We would like to highlight that the Dr. Robert Crapo Memorial Innovative Research Methodologies Award was reconfigured recently to recognize mid-career RSF members. Further, please be aware that nominations for the senior awards typically include multiple – generally three or more – letters of support, thus require some advance planning to assemble ahead of the late-January deadline. Join us at the RSF Membership Meeting at this year's International Conference to celebrate the newest RSF award winners!

Last but not least, the Planning Committee participates in the [RSF Apprenticeship Program](#) in coordination with the RSF ECP Working Group. Early-career RSF members may apply each January for the apprentice position on the Planning Committee. The apprentice serves as a full, voting member of the committee, thus observes and participates in the operations of the Assembly. It's a great opportunity for early-career professionals to increase their involvement in the RSF Assembly. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!

Carrie E. Perlman, Ph.D., Planning Committee Chair (cperlman@stevens.edu)
 Laura L. Walkup, Ph.D., Planning Committee Co-Chair (laura.walkup@cchmc.org)

Assembly/Committee Project Applications for FY2025

Assembly members interested in submitting a Project application should start developing their ideas. Applications for NEW Assembly Projects for 2025 will be accepted July 1 through July 31, 2024.

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 or Co-Chair, Laura Walkup, PhD, at laura.walkup@cchmc.org**

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, MD, PhD, (Chair)

The mission of the Early Career Professionals Working Group (ECP WG) of the Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF) is to create opportunities for graduate students, postdocs, clinical fellows and junior faculty and professionals towards increasing their visibility and involvement within the ATS and the broader scientific community. The ECP WG provides tools, resources and programs geared towards the professional development and career advancement of its assembly members.

For 2023, 8 meetings were held with 6 – 7 attendees at each meeting. We co-sponsored a virtual happy hour, “How to get the most out of the ATS Conference”, which aimed to provide our early career members helpful ways to navigate attending a large, international conference prior to the event in May. We had one representative compete in the multi-assembly Teaching Competition at the last conference. And we are delighted to report that the ECP WG submitted several session proposals for the 2024 ATS International Conference: 4 scientific mini-symposia, 1 Meet-the-Expert and 1 workshop.

The Abstract writing guide is an excellent reference for those who are considering submitting abstracts for presentation at the ATS International Conference. This preparation and writing guide has been updated by Laura Walkup this year and can be found here: [RSF Abstract Preparation Guide](#).

The Apprenticeship Program provides early career assembly members a mentored introduction to the activities that shape the future of the ATS. One apprentice is chosen each year for each of the 3 committees: program committee, planning committee and web committee. The deadline to submit applications this year was January 22, 2024, and we received 3 applications.

The ATS RSF Mentoring Program facilitates networking opportunities between early career professionals and senior assembly members. The deadline to sign up to be a potential mentee or mentor is March 1, 2024. Mentor-mentee pairs will have the chance to meet in-person at ATS 2024 in San Diego, CA. We matched 5 mentor-mentee pairs the previous year and look forward to new applications once again this year.

We are very pleased to have highlighted 8 early career professionals in 2023. Their profiles can be viewed here: [ECP Highlights](#). This is a great way to showcase the research and scientific achievements of junior RSF members. To learn more, please contact Katrina Tonga (katrina.tonga@sydney.edu.au).

Our series of journal clubs continue to focus on featuring published work by early career professionals. This offers a venue for feedback from a panel of invited field-specific experts and facilitates discussion among RSF assembly members. We welcome anyone interested in presenting their research for this journal club to contact Brandon Lewis (Brandon.Lewis@nationwidechildrens.org). In addition, we will be launching a new webinar in April 2024 that intends to bridge the gap between basic science research and clinical applications by featuring published work by an early career professional and at the same time inviting a clinical expert to provide insights on its potential applications. Dr. Jason Gokey (Vanderbilt University Medical Center) will present his work at our inaugural webinar, and we have invited Dr. Sujith Cherian (University of Texas McGovern Medical School) to provide his clinical expertise. We encourage interested basic scientists and clinicians to contact Thu Tran (Thu.tran@uth.tmc.edu) or Alane Dy (dy.alaneblythe@gmail.com) for more information.

As my term as Chair of the RSF ECP WG ends, I would like to acknowledge the guidance of Janette Burgess, the RSF executive team, the entire RSF ECP WG team over the last two years as well as all the help we have received from Nicole Feijoo and Tiana Lino from ATS.

I am delighted to announce that Alane Dy will be the next Chair of the RSF ECP WG, effective post-ATS 2024. She has been actively involved with the ECP WG and has contributed positively in numerous ways.

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 mentee to meet.

Marriott Marquis

Vista, Level 1, South

Sunday, May 19th – Monday, May 20 from 6 am to 6 pm

Please note, this space is exclusively for Mentoring Program participants

ATS Contact- Tiana Lino at tlino@thoracic.org

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Richard Johnston, PhD, ATSF, (Website Director)

Since the 2023 International Conference, the Web Committee, which consists of fourteen members, has kept the Assembly abreast of RSF-specific announcements and events via [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly Twitter), and our [Assembly's website](#). As of February 2024, our Assembly's [Facebook](#) and [X](#) pages have 77 and 579 followers, respectively. We specifically thank David Mummy, Ph.D. and Carolyn Wang, BSc (Hons) for continuously updating our Assembly's [X](#) platform and Katrina Tonga, MBChB, Ph.D., FRACP for organizing our [Assembly's Early Career Professional \(ECP\) Highlights Series](#).

During the past year, RSF sponsored one webinar:

January 24, 2024 – Ann Woolcock Memorial Award Webinar – DAMPs: The Danger from Within. Studying Host-Derived Danger Signals in COPD

and jointly sponsored one Journal Club with the Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group:

December 8, 2023 – Ph.D. Scientists in Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Clinical Departments: Discovery Science on the Edge

To view the webinar and journal club, please visit our [Assembly's website](#).

Through our [Assembly's ECP Highlights Series](#), the Assembly was introduced to nine RSF ECPs this past year, including Simon Pouwels, Ph.D., Emmanuel Osei, M.Sc., Ph.D., Carolyn Wang, BSc (Hons), David Mummy, Ph.D., Marrison McIntosh, Ph.D., Amjad Kanj, M.D., M.P.H., Rebeca Nunes Silva, MPT, Robert Wharton, M.D., and Firoozeh Gerayeli, BA (Hons).

Also, we began a new initiative to highlight the accomplishments of our Assembly's members. Thus, we highly encourage you to send us a brief description of any professional accolades (i.e., promotion or tenure announcements, ATS fellow status, awards bestowed by home institution or professional scientific organization, grants awarded, etc.) or citations from your recent publications (i.e., research articles, reviews, editorials, etc.) so we can post these on our Assembly's [Facebook](#) and [X](#) platforms. Please send this information to rsf@thoracic.org if you would like to share it with the RSF community.

The ATS will be unveiling a new website throughout 2024, which will impact each individual Assembly's website. Specifically, webpages that have not received much traffic will be archived. Furthermore, once the new ATS website is unveiled, the Web Committee will diligently edit existing RSF content for clarity and update any broken URLs.

Finally, we are always 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 send an e-mail to rsf@thoracic.org.



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NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Connie Hsia, MD, ATSF (Chair)

This year the committee again assembled a full slate of outstanding candidates for the positions of the Program Committee Chair-Elect and two Nominating Committee Members. It promises to be a very close election. The new officers will be announced during the RSF Assembly Membership Meeting in San Diego on Sunday, May 19, 2024, from 5-7 PM, so be sure to attend! 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. Grace Parraga and Jin-Ah Park, for their dedication to the nomination process and for reaching out to the candidates. As my tenure as Chair of the Nominating Committee draws to a close at the 2024 ATS Conference, and on behalf of all the Committee members, it is an honor for us to serve the Assembly in this capacity. We extend our best wishes to the next members of the Nominating Committee.

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

Lindsay McDonald, Ph.D and James D. Londino, Ph.D (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-seven 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. Lindsay McDonald 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. **Equity and ATS Opportunities.** Under the co-leadership of Carolyn Cannon, M.D., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB) and Jarrod Barnes, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC), 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. With guidance from this subcommittee, the PBTS co-chairs, and other PhD representatives within the ATS, met with the ATS leadership and were successful in promoting PhD involvement through the inclusion of more basic science focused seminar series; and reduction of the conference fee for PhD's and postdoctoral fellows this year by 30%.

2. **Seminar.** Under the leadership of Jarrod Barnes, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) and Kelly Potter, Ph.D., RN (Assembly on NUR) the Seminar Subcommittee has the goal of highlighting Ph.D. scientists and innovative methods/techniques in a seminar format. The planned structure is 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. This group held the inaugural seminar "Identification of Lung Innervating Sensory Neurons and Their Target Specificity" last Spring. In addition, in conjunction with the RSF web committee, the group, co-sponsored a workshop entitled 'Building Career Paths for Ph.D., Basic, and Translational Scientists in Clinical Departments in the U.S.' based on the assembly project "Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities and ATS Membership" and the recently published manuscript on the topic by Dr. Beth Moore.
3. **Survey.** To understand the rationale as to why Ph.D. scientists attend the ATS International Conference but do not join ATS as members, Janette Burgess, Ph.D., ATSF (Assembly on RSF) assembled a subcommittee of PBTS WG members to answer this question. This survey was 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 data demonstrated that the cost of the conference and membership was the prime concern for researchers attending the conference. In addition, the survey showed that PhD specific resources within the ATS were appreciated by the attendees and were an important driver of membership. This survey will be resubmitted for the 2024 conference to ascertain whether the new fee structure alleviates these concerns and to identify additional concerns of Ph.D. members of the ATS.
4. **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.
5. **PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Collaboration Events.** Brian Cade Ph.D. (Assembly on SRN) currently serves as the PBTS liaison with the SIC. The PBTS WG/SIC hopes to provide more Ph.D.-centric events in the upcoming year and to help facilitate programming for the SIC. In addition, the PBTS working group will be co-hosting the Science and Innovation Center Ph.D. Reception at the 2024 ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA.
6. **Awards.** A PBTS WG Awards subcommittee is chaired by Karen Ridge, 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. This subcommittee is available to aid the RSF membership on the submission of material for the nomination of PhD and basic science candidates for ATS-wide awards.
7. **Symposium.** Increasing the number of PhD specific research symposiums at the conference is a priority for the PBTS working group. This year the group successfully programmed a seminar "MECHANICAL FORCES IN LUNG DISEASE" which was co-sponsored by the RSF assembly. This subcommittee is currently looking to program research focused symposium for the 2025 conference. Please contact the PBTS working group with suggestions and help is available to the RSF membership to facilitate the programming of basic science topics.

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 email either Lindsay McDonald (Lindsay.McDonald@va.gov) or James Londino (james.londino@osumc.edu).

Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers

Sunday, May 19th from 3 - 5 p.m.
San Diego Convention Center
Sails Pavilion Terrace (Upper Level)

The ATS Science and Innovation Center (SIC) working group and the PhD working group, would like to invite PhDs and other Basic Science Researchers to a special reception event. The reception will provide an intimate setting for networking while also allowing guests to mingle. Cocktails will be provided.

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

BASIC SCIENCE CORE

Ramaswamy Krishnan, PhD, & Markus Weckmann, PhD

Our representatives in the Basic Science Core, Ramaswamy Krishnan, PhD and Markus Weckmann, PhD, helped plan 2 sessions on the theme of “Multi-Omics to Mechanisms: Elucidating Pathobiology of Lung Disease” at the 2024 International Conference. One session centers on multi-omic and single cell approaches for elucidating cellular biology and pathobiology of lung disease, and the other is focused on the application of metabolomics across the pulmonary/critical Care spectrum.

SIC SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS FOR RSF

Chris Pascoe, PhD and Rodney Britt, PhD

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, Christopher Pascoe PhD and Rodney Britt PhD have been collaborating with members from the ATS assemblies Allergy, Immunology, and Inflammation (AII), 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 be published in the ATS app closer to the conference. 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 RSF's 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 the RSF programmed session:

- What's Shaking? Assessing Lung Function with Oscillometry Across the Lifespan with Dr. Larry Lands, MD/PhD McGill University.

Additionally, the Networking Supercenter and the SIC will have sessions on:

- Early-stage drug development
- Genomics and genetics of complex lung diseases
- Using ex-vivo models bridge the research gap
- Infection and vaccination
- Post-COVID Syndromes
- Implement-Omics
- Cellular origins of BPD
- Respiratory medicine in silico

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 Chris or Rodney (Christopher.pascoe@umanitoba.ca, Rodney.Britt@NationwideChildrens.org)

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!

Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function Bingo

If you want to have some fun during networking before the RSF membership meeting take part in the RSF Bingo. Collect the necessary signatures on the Bingo page and then post your completed sheet in the box at the front of the room (near the stage).

At the end of the meeting agenda, we will draw some completed sheets from the box and prizes will be awarded to those who are present to collect them.

Find the bingo sheet as you enter the membership meeting room or by scanning the code below.

