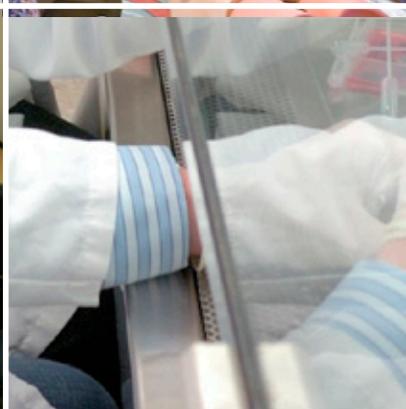
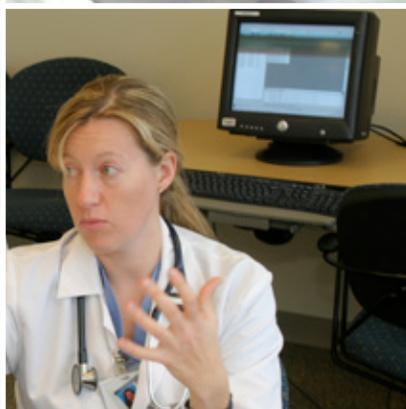
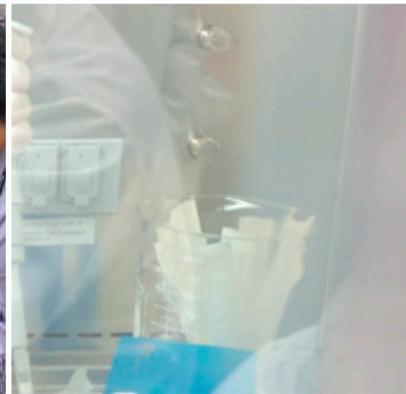
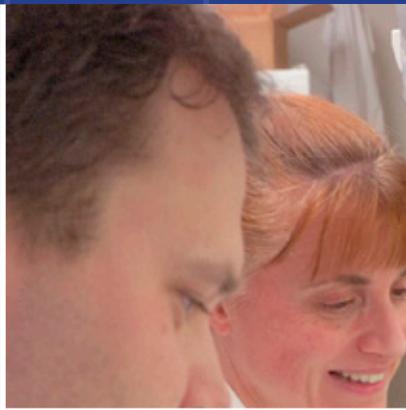


American Thoracic Society

# Annual Report 2018

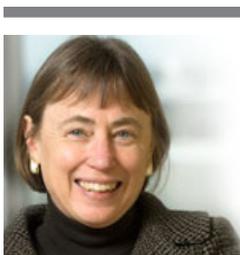


# ATS Annual Report - 2018

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# Presidents' Letter



*Polly Parsons, MD*

In 2018, the American Thoracic Society (ATS) enjoyed excellence in multiple areas critical to the Society's mission, while also setting the stage for future growth through new initiatives.

The core activities of the Society — our International Conference, clinical practice guidelines, and journals — all enjoyed strong performances in 2018. Attendance at the conference in San Diego was excellent, we published four major clinical guidelines and 13 other official documents, and our journals continued to perform as market leaders.

In fact, the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine's Impact Factor (IF) rose to 15.239 in June, and the Annals of the American Thoracic Society received its first IF, with a ranking of 4.006.

In April, ATS was awarded Accreditation with Commendation by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) for a six-year term, through March 31, 2024. ACCME accreditation signifies continuing medical education that is relevant, effective, and independent and recognizes the high quality of ATS educational programs.

The ATS also came into compliance with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation, which went into effect in May 2018. The regulation represents a comprehensive overhaul and strengthening of existing privacy protections. The ATS undertook numerous policy and practice modifications to ensure it meets these new requirements for data collection, storage, and use.

In December, the ATS Board of Directors approved a new strategic framework. This will form a roadmap for the planning and execution of future activities aimed at achieving one of four overarching goals:

- Advance Research and Careers—the ATS catalyzes development and dissemination of basic, translational, and clinical knowledge
- Advance Clinical Care—the ATS translates new discoveries into clinical care
- Advance Public Health—the ATS advocates for policies both in the U.S. and globally that will improve respiratory health and patient care
- Evolve the Organization—the ATS is a dynamic organization that maximizes the engagement of its members

The board also approved the creation of a Diversity and Inclusion Policy. The ATS has been promoting diversity and inclusion for many years, as evidenced by the creation of a Women’s Forum and a Diversity Forum in the early 1990s. Interest groups have also been formed that speak to specific demographics within the ATS. As a living document, the policy is meant to reflect and codify the work the ATS has been doing for years, and to foster other activities to make the Society as inclusive an organization as possible.

Finally, 2018 brought important leadership changes to the Society. Steve Crane, PhD, who served as the executive director for 11 years, retired in June. He leaves behind the legacy of a reinvigorated membership organization dedicated to improving patient health while also providing significant and growing opportunities for professional development. His successor, Karen Collishaw, CAE, brings fresh ideas and dynamism. We are excited about this new chapter in the Society’s story and so are our members, whose numbers continue to grow.

The pages that follow offer just the briefest overview of the tremendous work performed on an ongoing basis by thousands of members and dozens of staff to help advance the science and care of people suffering from respiratory diseases, critical illnesses, and sleep disorders.



*Marc Moss, MD*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Polly Parsons'.

**Polly Parsons, MD**  
*President*  
American Thoracic Society  
2018–2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Moss'.

**Marc Moss, MD**  
*President*  
American Thoracic Society  
2017–2018



# Education

**THE SOCIETY'S EDUCATION PROGRAMS** and products help health care professionals practice at the forefront of their fields and transition successfully through the various stages of their careers.

Central to the ATS educational mission is the International Conference, where thousands of research and clinical experts gather annually to share the latest research findings and clinical advances in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine.

The International Conference offers many opportunities for continuing medical education, nursing continuing education, and maintenance of certification, making it easier for physicians and nurses to meet these important professional obligations while participating in the conference.

The ATS is also committed to supporting a new generation of clinicians and scientists. In 2018, the Society launched the Pediatric Resident Development Scholarship to enable outstanding residents to attend the conference, receive the advice of a mentor, and network—all to encourage them to pursue a fellowship in pediatric pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine.

This scholarship joins the long-standing Minority Trainee Development Scholarship, which supports a trainee at any level (high school and beyond) who is named as a co-author on an abstract being presented at the conference.

In addition, the International Trainee Scholarship (ITS) and International Abstract Scholarship (IAS) awards help early career professionals presenting abstracts to attend the International Conference to learn about the latest basic, translational, and clinical science, as well as new developments in the practice of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. In 2018, the Society made available 50 ITS and 115 IAS awards.

Finally, the Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical, and Operations Research (MECOR) Research Awards help ATS MECOR graduates who are presenting abstracts to attend the International Conference and continue their MECOR mentoring and research training with ATS mentors.

Networking is an important aspect of the International Conference, and the Society has established centers to foster the formal and informal exchange of ideas and professional information.

- **Science and Innovation Center:** Facilitates scientists learning and networking through a full schedule of workshops and other activities. In 2019, the center will host the 5th Annual BEAR (Building Education to



Advance Research) Cage competition for translational research funding.

- **Center for Career Development:** Allows early career professionals to participate in informal workshops and other activities aimed at enhancing their professional development.
- **Clinicians Center and Learning Labs:** Enhances the International Conference experience for all pulmonary, critical care, and sleep health care professionals. In addition to cutting-edge presentations, this networking and learning area provides hands-on demonstrations of procedures and techniques in the Learning Labs.

The ATS has also established special programs for Early Career Professionals during its International Conference. These programs include:

- **Student Scholars Program:** A unique opportunity for some 80 highly motivated medical, graduate, and nursing students to attend and receive one-on-one mentoring during the conference.
- **Resident Boot Camp:** The two-day Resident Boot Camp helps prepare residents entering adult and pediatric pulmonary and critical care fellowships through didactic presentations, workshops, and small-group discussions, all led by 140 of the best educators in the field.

| ATS International Conference                |                     |                            |                         |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | 2018<br>(San Diego) | 2017<br>(Washington, D.C.) | 2016<br>(San Francisco) |
| Total Attendance                            | 15,968              | 16,169                     | 16,115                  |
| Total Scientific Abstracts and Case Reports | 6,810               | 6,710                      | 6,942                   |
| Exhibiting Companies                        | 234                 | 206                        | 204                     |
| Countries Represented                       | 94                  | 99                         | 95                      |



- **International Boot Camp:** This course runs in parallel to the Resident Boot Camp for a select group of international attendees.
- **Fellows Track Symposium:** For adult and pediatric fellows in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine, this two-day course covers cutting-edge topics in respiratory medicine. It emphasizes interaction with instructors and peers, and hands-on demonstrations.
- **Faculty Development Series:** Each year the Members in Training and Transition Committee plans a Faculty Development Series that is targeted to those entering or in the early years of an academic career.

Notable enhancements to the Exhibit Hall include the Restoring Joy in Medicine booth, which is dedicated to physician wellness. This area included resources for helping to combat burnout as well as free massages and therapy dogs. The Society also presented the Best of Show awards to three exhibitors who go above and beyond normal expectations to deliver outstanding exhibit experiences.

## **ATS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: AVAILABLE 365 DAYS A YEAR**

ATS members and nonmembers alike take advantage of the many educational opportunities the ATS offers beyond the International Conference. Those opportunities include:

- **ATS Store:** In 2018, new additions to the store, including the ATS Review for the Critical Care Boards e-book and accredited continuing medical education (CME)/maintenance of certification (MOC) webcast packages, contributed to record-breaking sales. The review book and a companion compilation of practice test questions are intended to help prepare learners for the American Board of Internal Medicine Critical Care Medicine Certification Exam. A large selection of the CME/MOC webcast packages are available to ATS members free of charge.
- **Webinar and Podcast Series:** Building upon the Best in Video Lecture Series program, the ATS Training Committee launched a webinar and podcast initiative in 2018 to expand easily accessible education content for early career professionals. Topics for the

webinars and corresponding podcasts focus on career development, particularly for researchers and those in academic medicine.

- **Educational Consulting Service:** Piloted in 2018, this program offered ATS members access to consultants from the Education Committee. The consultants helped improve the content and delivery of postgraduate courses, provided one-on-one coaching to conference presenters, and assisted with session proposal development.

### HOSTING IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS

The ATS has forged alliances with the organizations of U.S. leaders in adult and pediatric pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medical education. The ATS supports these leaders' efforts to advance the field through hosting forums, facilitating their discussions, and disseminating their views and goals.

#### **Association of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine Division Directors:**

The adult division directors continued their efforts to create a culture of gender equality in their divisions. In December 2018 they

published "Addressing Gender Inequality in Our Disciplines: Report from the Association of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Division Chiefs" in the *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*. The leadership also recorded multiple installations of their popular podcast series "In the Trenches."

#### **Pediatric Pulmonary Division Directors Association and Pediatric Resident Development Scholarship:**

The Pediatric Pulmonary Division Directors Association developed and launched the Pediatric Resident Development Scholarship in 2018 to encourage residents to apply to pediatric pulmonary and sleep medicine fellowships.

#### **Pediatric Pulmonary Training Directors Association:**

The Pediatric Pulmonary Training Directors Association held forums at ATS 2018 and at North American Cystic Fibrosis 2018 focused on pediatric pulmonary workforce issues. The Association planned a series of focus groups with early career professionals to identify barriers to choosing pediatric pulmonary medicine as a career pathway.

### LOOKING AHEAD

- The new Fellows to Faculty Boot Camp is a two-day program that will be held at ATS 2019 for the first time and will cover the specific knowledge and skills needed to make the often difficult transition from clinical and post-doctoral fellow to independent faculty member.
  - Owing to the overwhelming response to the Fellows Track Symposium and Resident Boot Camp, the
- ATS will offer virtual versions of these courses. Participants will have access to all the teaching materials for these courses, plus the option to participate in webinars and Facebook Live events.
- New at ATS 2019, the Recording Room will allow ATS members to broadcast live or tape interviews via a webinar or podcast format.

# Research

**ESTABLISHED IN 2004** as the philanthropic arm of the Society, the ATS Foundation raises funds for the ATS Foundation Research Program. Because groundbreaking research is vital to preventing and curing respiratory diseases, the Research Program supports the best science—and the most promising young researchers.



ATS Foundation  
RELATING BETTER THROUGH RESEARCH

Since its inception, the ATS Foundation Research Program has awarded \$19.3 million to 263 investigators, both in the U.S. and internationally. These researchers have gone on to receive \$330 million in federal funding. That's a return of \$17 per dollar awarded.

For the 2018 grant cycle, the ATS Foundation awarded 30 research grants totaling over \$1.53 million. These grants provide crucial support for talented investigators from around the world. These awards are made possible by the generosity of ATS members, donors, and corporate and nonprofit partners.

Grant awardees explore such diverse topics as lung cancer, asthma, acute respiratory distress syndrome, pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and sleep apnea.

## ATS FOUNDATION GRANTS

The ATS Foundation funds unrestricted research grants representing the Society's three pillars: pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. These one-year, \$40,000 grants span basic, clinical, and translational research in adult and pediatric medicine. The 2018 recipients are:

- **Alessandra Adami, PhD**, University of Rhode Island
- **Thomaz F. Curado, PhD**, Johns Hopkins University
- **Laurie C. Eldredge, MD, PhD**, Seattle Children's Hospital and University of Washington
- **Jegen Kandasamy, MD**, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- **Luu V. Pham, MD**, Johns Hopkins University
- **Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD**, Boston University
- **Lokesh Kumar Sharma, PhD**, Yale University
- **Ciara M. Shaver, MD, PhD**, Vanderbilt University
- **Benjamin H. Singer, MD, PhD**, University of Michigan
- **Huanxing Sun, PhD**, Yale University
- **Matthew Triplette, MD**, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- **Annelies Van Eyck, PhD**, University of Antwerp



- **Eszter Vladar, PhD**, University of Colorado
- **Xiaoyi Yuan, PhD**, UT Health Science Center at Houston

#### **NURSING AWARD**

In 2017, the ATS Foundation established its first research award specifically for nurses. It provides support for licensed, registered nurses who have completed a PhD and have research interests in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. This award was made possible through a generous donation from Leslie A. Hoffman, PhD. The 2018 recipient is Zhan Liang, RN, PhD, of the University of Miami.

#### **PARTNER GRANTS**

The ATS Foundation partners with other nonprofit organizations and pharmaceutical companies to support disease-specific research in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. Most partner grants award \$40,000–\$50,000 annually for two years. Partners for this grant cycle are the Alpha-1 Foundation; American Lung Association; American Lung Association in Oregon; Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Children’s

Interstitial Lung Disease Foundation; Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Ltd.; Insmed; Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals, Pulmonary Hypertension Association; and ResMed. The 2018 recipients are:

- **David G. Chapman, PhD**, University of Technology Sydney
- **Zhiyu Dai, PhD**, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital
- **Shashi Kant, PhD**, Baylor Research Institute
- **Landon W. Locke, PhD**, The Ohio State University
- **Brenda Marsh, MD, PhD**, Oregon Health and Science University
- **Michael Podolsky, MD**, University of California–San Francisco
- **Paul A. Reyfman, MD**, Northwestern University
- **Xin Sun, PhD**, University of California–San Diego
- **Soban Umar, MD, PhD**, University of California–Los Angeles
- **Nicole White, PhD**, Washington University in St. Louis

- **Ross G. Edgar, BSc, MRes**, University of Birmingham
- **Spyridon Fortis, MD**, University of Iowa

## MECOR RESEARCH AWARDS

One-year, \$5,000 grants are awarded to outstanding graduates of the ATS Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical, and Operations Research (MECOR) program to allow them to transition from trainees to investigators. MECOR

graduates come from developing regions around the globe, including Africa, Latin America, China, India, Indonesia, Turkey, and Vietnam. The 2018 recipients are:

- **Yahong Chen, MD, PhD**, Peking University, China
- **Nazan Cobanoglu, MD**, Ankara University, Turkey
- **Feng Sun, PhD**, Peking University, China

## LOOKING AHEAD

The 2019 ATS Foundation Research Program grant cycle opens in April. Interested applicants can learn more about submitting a letter of intent at [www.thoracic.org/professionals/research](http://www.thoracic.org/professionals/research).

Applicants are assessed on a range of criteria, including scientific excellence, implications of the research,

novelty of the project, potential to transition to a career as an established investigator, and the potential impact of the research to improve patient care and outcomes. High-scoring projects will receive an invitation to submit a full application.

## 2018 FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM, PARTNER GRANT, AND MECOR AWARDEES



**Alessandra Adami, PhD**  
University of Rhode Island



**Geoffrey Chapman, BSc, PhD**  
University of Technology Sydney



**Yahong Chen, MD, PhD**  
Peking University  
Third Hospital, China



**Nazan Cobanoglu, MD**  
Ankara University, Turkey



**Thomaz A. Fleury Curado, MD, PhD**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



**Zhiyu Dai, PhD**  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie  
Children's Hospital of Chicago



**Ross G. Edgar, BSc, MRes**  
University of Birmingham



**Laurie Christine Eldredge, MD, PhD**  
Seattle Children's Hospital and  
University of Washington



**Annelies Van Eyck, PhD**  
University of Antwerp



**Jegen Kandasamy, MBBS, MD**  
University of Alabama  
at Birmingham



**Shashi Kant, PhD**  
Baylor Research Institute



**Zhan Liang, PhD, RN**  
University of Miami



**Landon W. Locke, PhD**  
The Ohio State University



**Brenda Marsh, MD, PhD**  
Oregon Health and  
Science University



**Michael Liam O'Byrne,  
MD, MSCE**  
University of Pennsylvania



**Luu Van Pham, MD**  
Johns Hopkins University, School  
of Medicine



**Michael Podolsky, MD**  
University of California,  
San Francisco



**Paul Andrew Reyfman, MD, MS**  
Northwestern University



**Seppo Rinne, MD, PhD**  
Boston University



**Lokesh Kumar Sharma, PhD**  
Yale University



**Ciara M. Shaver, MD, PhD**  
Vanderbilt University  
Medical Center



**Benjamin Singer, MD, PhD**  
University of Michigan Medical School



**Xin Sun, PhD**  
University of California  
San Diego



**Huanxing Sun, PhD**  
Yale University



**Feng Sun, PhD**  
Peking University, China



**Matthew Triplette, MD, MPH**  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
and University of Washington



**Soban Umar, MD, PhD**  
University of California  
Los Angeles



**Eszter Katalin Vliadar, PhD**  
University of Colorado  
School of Medicine



**Nicole White, PhD**  
Washington University in St. Louis



**Xiaoyi Yuan, PhD**  
The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at Houston

# Advocacy

**ADVOCACY ON BEHALF OF OUR PATIENTS, MEMBERS, AND PROFESSION** is central to the ATS mission. In 2018, in the U.S. and around the globe, ATS members engaged in initiatives to influence policymakers and advance the science of lung health, protect the environment, and improve the health of patients with respiratory disease, critical illness, and sleep-disordered breathing.



ATS Fact Sheet series.  
Washington, DC.

In the past two years, federal agencies have continued to propose rules to roll back, weaken, or delay implementation of important public health policies, particularly those involving clean air and tobacco control.

Along with ATS policy committees, the Washington, D.C. office reviewed, analyzed, and commented on numerous proposals that affect our members and their patients, including the following:

- Repeal of greenhouse gas emission standards for U.S. power plants
- Repeal of vehicle tailpipe emission standards and fuel efficiency standards for cars and trucks
- Delay of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for cleaner wood stoves and furnaces
- Curtailment of the type of science the EPA can use in developing regulations
- Inclusion of Medicaid coverage in public charge determinations for Green Card applications
- Expansion of the availability of association health plans
- New prescription drug pricing policy

• Strategic plans for several institutes of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
In addition, the ATS Washington, D.C. office helped secure public policy victories on a number of critical issues, including:

- Preventing legislative restrictions on the authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate tobacco products and the EPA's authority to regulate air pollution
- Securing promises from the FDA to:
  - Ban candy-flavored cigars
  - Ban menthol-flavored cigarettes
  - Restrict retail sales of e-cigarettes
  - Regulate e-cigarette flavoring
- Funding increases for the NIH, the Veterans Affairs (VA) Research Program, and global tuberculosis (TB) control programs

To advocate for increased TB funding, the ATS cosponsored a series of events on Capitol Hill. On World TB day, TB survivors from California, Colorado, Michigan, Alabama, and Vermont met with their congressional delegations to call for increased funding for global and domestic TB programs. That same day, the ATS and partners convened an educational briefing for



congressional staff titled “Tuberculosis: The Leading Global Infectious Killer.”

Where advocacy aimed at Congress and the Administration was insufficient, the ATS sought relief through the courts, filing several amicus briefs to:

- Support court action to compel FDA to issue timely and effective e-cigarette product regulations
- Oppose EPA’s proposal to delay implementation of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone

ATS members and patients are active participants in the Society’s overall efforts, helping put a human face on the enormous toll respiratory disease takes. Patients and providers participated in many key activities, including the following:

- Congressional briefings on respiratory health issues
- Multiple EPA field hearings to provide comment on proposed rules
- Meetings with key federal agencies, such as NIH, FDA, EPA, VA, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Office of Management and Budget to

discuss pulmonary, critical, and sleep health priorities

- ATS Hill Day, during which members and ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) representatives met with members of Congress and their staffs to advocate for respiratory health priorities
- ATS California member meeting with Sen. Kamala Harris’s staff on TB

The Society also worked with sister organizations to ensure health care providers are reimbursed for the care they deliver and provided coding, billing, and regulatory compliance information to ATS members.

### **INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS**

In the fall, the United Nations held its first ever high-level meeting on TB. The ATS was one of the organizations that advocated for the meeting and also for a strong political declaration committing member states to reach 40 million people with TB treatment by 2022 and to double funding for TB prevention and treatment. (Learn more about the ATS’s global health activities on page 20 of this report.)

# Clinical Care

THE ATS FOSTERS THE COLLECTION, EVALUATION, AND DISSEMINATION of scientific and clinical information to improve patient care, all of which is peer reviewed, and provides guidance on the ethical care of critically ill patients.

## CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

The ATS develops clinical practice guidelines on diagnosing and treating pulmonary, critical care, and sleep disorders. These guidelines are considered the gold standard of care in the field. In addition, the ATS publishes technical statements on how to perform tests and procedures, position statements about public policy and research, and workshop reports.

Nineteen official ATS documents were published in 2018, including the following:

### Clinical Practice Guidelines

- Diagnosis of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Diagnosis of Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia
- Management of Obesity in Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Management of Malignant Pleural Effusions

### Technical Statements

- Multiple breath washout testing

### Policy and Research Statements

- Incorporating co-existing illness into lung cancer screening

- Research priorities for sleep-disordered breathing in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Assessment of right ventricular function
- Investigation of tobacco harm reduction claims
- Improving affordability of prescription drugs for patients with chronic respiratory disease
- Lung precision medicine research with a focus on biomarkers

### Workshop Reports

- Optimizing home oxygen therapy
- Perioperative management of obstructive sleep apnea and obesity–hypoventilation syndrome
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease education during pulmonary rehabilitation
- Patient-centered outcomes research in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine
- Respiratory health in migrant and refugee populations
- Respiratory health effects of indoor air pollution



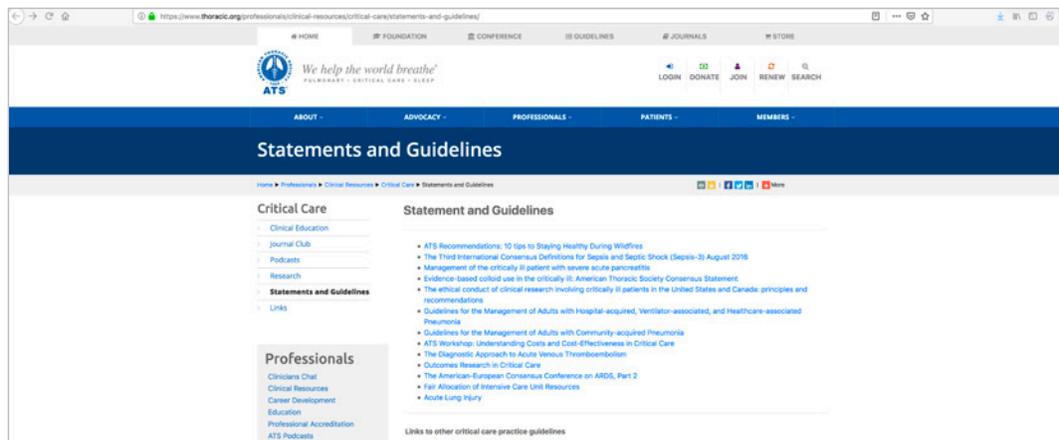
## Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) Laboratory Accreditation Program

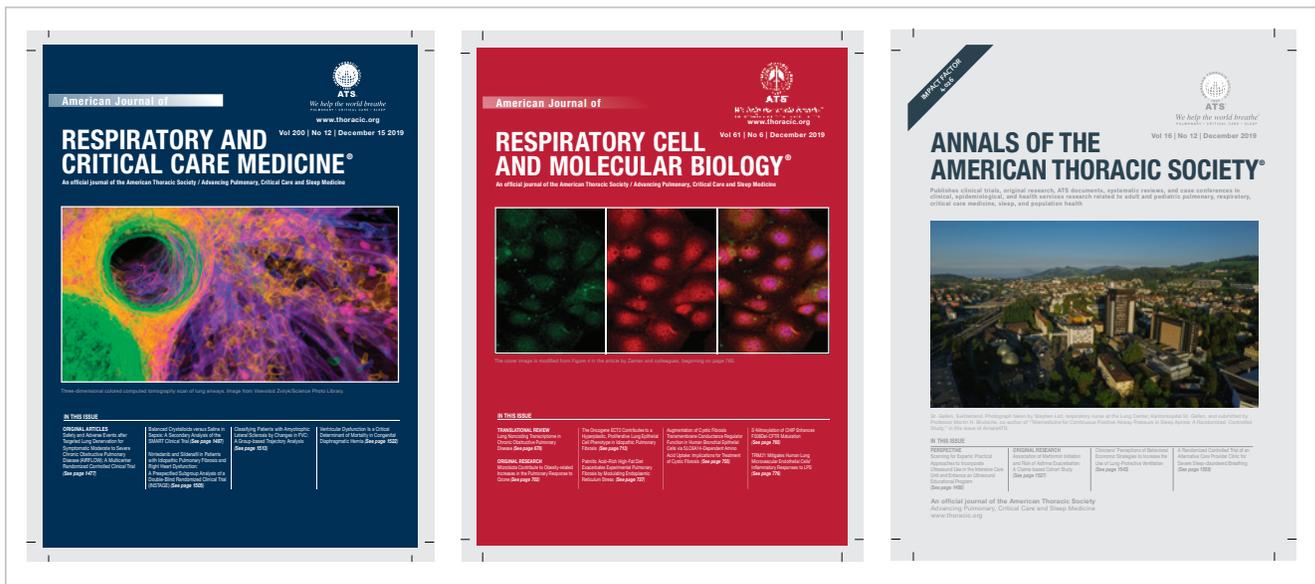
In 2018, the ATS PFT Laboratory Accreditation Program workgroup initiated a series of practice onsite assessments of PFT laboratories in hospital and university settings. The assessments will be critical to the workgroup’s refining of the policies, procedures, and evaluative criteria of an eventual program to ensure quality in PFT laboratories.

## ETHICS AND CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS

Among the great challenges faced by clinicians caring for the critically ill is that of ensuring that

decisions and actions are consistent with the best practices of medical and research ethics. In 2018 and previous years, members of the ATS Ethics Committee have published recommendations and produced podcasts to help clinicians make ethical decisions in intensive care. Topics have included working with and providing support for family members and other surrogates representing patients, responding to requests for inappropriate therapies, and addressing situations in which a clinician has a conscientious objection to a medical option.





## ATS Journals

The ATS journals chronicle the latest advances in respiratory cellular and molecular biology, genetics, and novel animal studies by publishing the most high-quality, innovative science. They also present epidemiological studies and practice-shaping clinical trials, publish state-of-the-art articles and clinical guidelines, and report on the education and ethical development of respiratory health professionals.

In 2018, the ATS journals implemented several initiatives to enhance the reader experience. All three ATS journals now offer an open-access option for articles upon author request. They have also joined ScholarOne Reviewer Connect to expedite peer review. And the International Conference abstracts will be indexed in CrossRef to increase citations.

Recent changes, along with those planned in the coming year, promise to keep the journals at the

forefront of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. Key milestones include the following:

- The American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (AJRCCM) has increased its impact factor to 15.239, one of the highest in the field.
- The American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (AJRCMB) is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019. In honor of this achievement, the journal has waived submissions fees for the year.
- The Annals of the American Thoracic Society (AnnalsATS) was issued its first impact factor of 4.006 from Web of Science. It also launched an early career group and is now offering video summaries of journal content called Annals Animated.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Several clinical guidelines are in development, many involving our sister societies. Topics addressed include community-acquired pneumonia, multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, nontuberculous mycobacterial infections, standards for performing spirometry, supplemental oxygen therapy in children, obesity–hypoventilation syndrome, fungal infections, and the diagnosis of sarcoidosis.
- In 2019, AJRCCM will expand its online archive content to include issues published between 1917 and 1959.
- AJRCCM will publish themed issues on asthma and interstitial lung disease in 2019.
- AJRCMB will form an early career group in 2019.
- ATS Scholar, the Society's newest journal, will launch in 2020. This peer-reviewed, open-access journal will focus on clinical, medical, research, and patient-focused education; meeting proceedings; and study and trial designs. In 2019, the ATS will recruit for the new Editor-in-Chief and begin accepting manuscripts.

# Patient Health

THIS PAST YEAR ATS PROVIDED A WEALTH OF INFORMATION to patients, families, health care providers, and others with an interest in lung disease and lung health.



Patient Information Series - Arabic.

## PATIENT EDUCATION MATERIALS

Central to the ATS mission is patient and family education. For over a decade the Society has become known for its high-quality Patient Information Series, available online and often printed in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*. In recent years, a Public Health Information series and a 20 Facts About series were added to meet the changing needs of the patient/family community. These materials are available on the ATS website, written and reviewed by member experts for accuracy and health literacy, and disseminated by members and non-members alike at home institutions.

In 2018, ATS issued 15 new pieces in its Patient Information Series on the following topics:

- Work-exacerbated Asthma
- Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension (CTEPH): Part 2
- Sarcoidosis: Part 2 (Treatment)
- Laryngomalacia
- Sleep and Performance
- Pulmonary Embolism

- Women and Sleep
- Volcanic Eruptions and Threats to Respiratory Health
- Indoor Air Quality Problems at Home, School, and Work
- Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD)
- Pulmonary Complications of Liver Disease
- Health Problems and Burning Indoor Fuels
- Protracted Bacterial Bronchitis (PBB) in Children
- Sand and Dust Storms: Acute Exposure and Threats to Respiratory Health
- Sleep in Infants

The Society also updated 22 previously published pieces::

- H• Oral Appliances for Sleep Apnea in Adults
- Vaping/Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems
- Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD)
- Allergic Bronchopulmonary Aspergillosis (ABPA)



- Sarcoidosis: Part 1 (What is Sarcoidosis?)
- Cigars
- Disposable Respirators
- Congenital Central Hypoventilation Syndrome (CCHS)
- Pulse Oximetry
- Palliative Care
- Vocal Cord Dysfunction (VCD)
- Arterial Catheterization
- Treatment of Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD)
- Breathlessness
- Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM)
- Influenza "The Flu" 2018–2019
- Blastomycosis
- Enterovirus D68
- Hookah Pipes
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Exacerbation of COPD
- Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency

**What is Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome?**

Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) is a life-threatening illness in which the lungs are severely inflamed. Swelling throughout the lungs cause tiny blood vessels to leak fluid and the air sacs (alveoli) collapse or fill with fluid, preventing the lungs from working well. Patients with ARDS have problems getting enough oxygen into their blood, and getting rid of carbon dioxide, so they must be given extra oxygen and will usually need a ventilator to breathe. Despite intensive treatment, about 46% of people with ARDS die from the disease.

**Who gets ARDS?**  
It is estimated that ARDS affects about 155,000 Americans each year. Although ARDS often affects people who are being treated for another serious illness, ARDS even if the person has not had any disease of a lung problem in the past.

**What causes ARDS?**  
The causes of ARDS are not well understood, but direct causes include:

**How is ARDS treated?**  
Currently, there is no specific treatment for ARDS. Treatment consists of two goals: 1) treat any medical problem that led to the lung injury, and 2) support the person's breathing (usually with a ventilator) until the lungs heal. Most people with ARDS are treated in the intensive care unit (ICU).

**ATS PATIENT VOICES 7**

A PUBLICATION FROM THE ATS PUBLIC ADVISORY ROUNDTABLE.

American Thoracic Society  
患者教育シリーズ

気管支肺異形成症(BPD)とは何か？

気管支肺異形成症(BPD)とは、主に乳児期に発症する呼吸器疾患です。主に早产児に多く見られ、呼吸器不全や肺動脈高血圧、呼吸不全、呼吸器感染症、呼吸器手術のリスクを高める可能性があります。

気管支肺異形成症(BPD)の原因は不明ですが、主に早产児に多く見られ、呼吸器不全や肺動脈高血圧、呼吸不全、呼吸器感染症、呼吸器手術のリスクを高める可能性があります。

気管支肺異形成症(BPD)の診断は、胸部X線検査、超音波検査、CTスキャン、MRI、呼吸器機能検査、呼吸器手術のリスクを高める可能性があります。

気管支肺異形成症(BPD)の治療は、呼吸器不全や肺動脈高血圧、呼吸不全、呼吸器感染症、呼吸器手術のリスクを高める可能性があります。

気管支肺異形成症(BPD)の予防は、呼吸器不全や肺動脈高血圧、呼吸不全、呼吸器感染症、呼吸器手術のリスクを高める可能性があります。

Patient Information Series - Japanese.

## ATS PUBLIC ADVISORY ROUNDTABLE

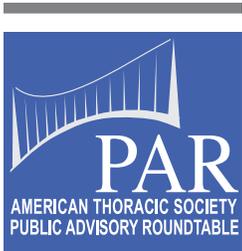
The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) comprises 15 patient interest organizations that help ensure patients' voices are heard in the Society's activities.

Among the rotating group of organizations, ATS PAR encompasses the full range of diseases the ATS covers. Some of these diseases are so-called orphan diseases, which, while uncommon, nevertheless affect thousands of people.

In 2018, PAR held its Lung Disease Week at the ATS, a ten-part series that partners with each patient interest organization represented on the Roundtable to highlight a specific disease. Ten webinars drew over 1,500 patients from around the globe. Each week also had a patient and expert information section on the ATS website, allowing participants to learn more.

In addition, ATS PAR hosted three onsite patient education days where local patients and caregivers could meet with clinical experts. Daylong events on Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome, childhood interstitial lung disease, and Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency / COPD were held in different locales across the country.

PAR representatives supported 20 travel awards for fellows to attend the International Conference. In addition, 15 patient speakers presented at International Conference symposia. These talks were published in Patient Voices 7 to introduce opinion leaders and the general public to the often-unrecognized burden of respiratory disease. Another component of PAR's activities at the International Conference was the Meet the Expert event. Twenty-six leading experts gave talks and interacted with the nearly 300 patients and family members in attendance.



[www.thoracic.org/patients/par](http://www.thoracic.org/patients/par)



*At ATS 2018, twenty-six leading experts gave talks and interacted with 300 patients and family members in attendance.*



*At ATS 2018, PAR hosted three onsite patient education days, where local patients and caregivers could meet with clinical experts.*



*Patient education days at ATS2018.*

## LOOKING AHEAD

- In the coming year, ATS PAR will host four onsite patient education day events, extending outreach efforts to groups suffering from respiratory and critical care illnesses.
- ATS PAR will enhance its collaborations with both ATS Assemblies and Committees to further integrate the patient perspective into ATS activities.

# Global Health

**SINCE ITS ADOPTION IN 2002, THE ATS GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAM STRATEGIC PRIORITIES** have demonstrated the unique approaches necessary for the Society to be a truly international organization.



*Mecor Turns 25!*

## **MECOR TURNS 25!**

For 25 years, building the research capacity of low- and middle-income countries has been a key global health strategy for the ATS. Through its Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical, and Operations Research (MECOR) program, the ATS has created a global footprint with more than 2,000 graduates. This intensive course for physicians and related health care professionals increases capacity and leadership in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine research.

In 2018, the ATS completed a comprehensive redesign of the curriculum, course organization, and mentorship offerings. The updated course capitalizes on the program leaders' extensive experience and expertise and helps ensure delivery of best-in-class programming.

ATS MECOR was held in the following countries in 2018:

- Mexico City, Mexico
- Beijing, China
- Bangalore, India
- Jakarta, Indonesia

- Larnaca, Cyprus
- Da Nang, Vietnam

## **THE FORUM OF INTERNATIONAL RESPIRATORY SOCIETIES (FIRS)**

The goal of FIRS is to improve lung health worldwide by unifying the efforts of the world's leading international respiratory societies. The ATS was a founding member of the forum, which also includes the Asociación Latinoamericana del Torax (ALAT), the American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST), the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR), the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the Pan African Thoracic Society (PATS), and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union).

In 2018, FIRS participated in two United Nations High-Level Meetings—on Tuberculosis and Non-Communicable Diseases. The meetings helped raise awareness of these health issues and began partnerships with ministers of health from around the world to improve the diagnosis and treatment of respiratory disease and the care of critically ill patients and those with sleep-related illnesses.



FIRS continues to coordinate World Lung Day on September 25 to bring attention to the enormous burden lung disease represents around the globe. Medical professionals, nongovernmental organizations, and private citizens demonstrated their support for World Lung Day by signing the Charter for Lung Health.

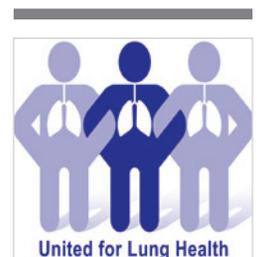
### TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL

Tuberculosis (TB) is curable in the vast majority of cases, and yet slow progress against the disease means that it now kills more people annually than any other communicable disease.

Since the early 1900s, the ATS has been the leading physician organization dedicated to the elimination of TB in the U.S. and around the globe. In addition to disseminating important TB research findings and creating clinical practice

guidelines for TB, the ATS advocates for U.S. and international funding for TB control, research, and development. In 2018, ATS and its partners secured:

- Increased funding for USAID’s global TB control program, which will expand TB technical and programmatic support in highly burdened countries.
- Stable funding for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control for TB elimination activities in the U.S., including initiatives addressing TB among foreign-born and recent immigrants.
- Increased funding for TB research for two U.S. National Institutes of Health divisions—the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute—to ensure advances are being made for TB diagnosis and treatment.



*The ATS is a founding member of the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS).*

### LOOKING AHEAD

- In 2019 ATS MECOR will offer six courses — in Africa, China, India, Indonesia, Latin America, and Turkey.
- The ATS will continue its strong advocacy efforts with Congress for continued and increased TB funding

for domestic TB control activities at the Centers for Disease Control, international TB activities at USAID, and TB research initiatives at the National Institutes of Health to counter the continued prevalence of this disease.

# The Society's Nuts and Bolts

**THE ATS FOSTERS A COLLABORATIVE AND INCLUSIVE APPROACH TO ADVANCING ITS MISSION.** Collegiality among members and staff maximizes the extraordinary intellectual capital and experience of our internationally recognized experts in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine.



*As assemblies continue to expand, they now all offer Assembly Apprenticeship Programs for new assembly members.*

## THE ASSEMBLIES

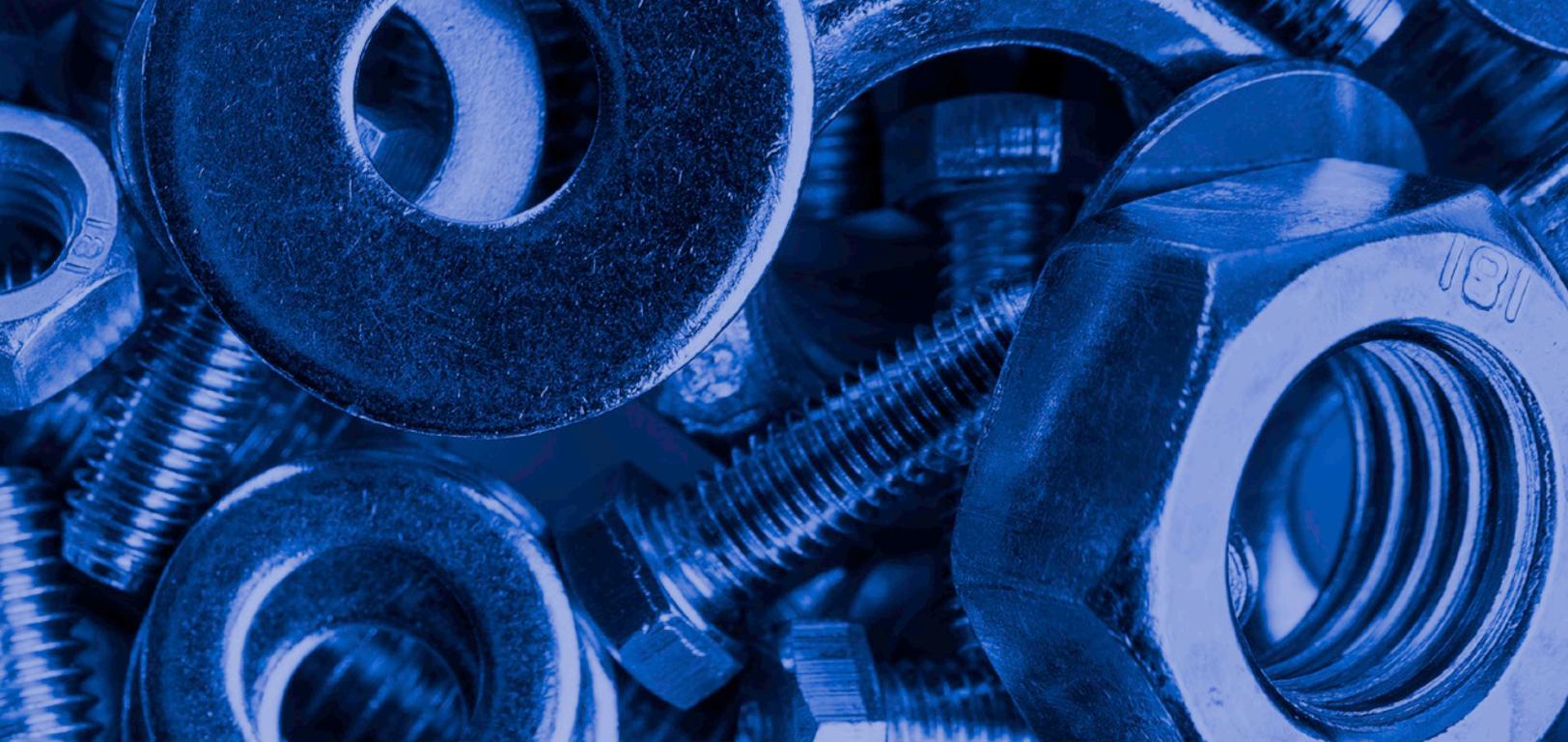
The Society's 14 assemblies and three sections are central to its efforts to disseminate the latest scientific and clinical information in respiratory medicine and to advance knowledge in the field. Highlights for 2018 include:

- The assemblies continue to expand their activities aimed at helping early career professionals. Journal Clubs have grown, and more fellows and trainees are leading real-time discussions of recent journal articles via an interactive web platform.
- All 14 assemblies now offer mentoring programs, and some offer Assembly Apprenticeship Programs. These programs give new assembly members a "behind-the-scenes" look at the operations of their assembly while developing skills necessary to contribute to the assembly's activities.
- The Best of ATS Video Lecture Series is a learning archive of outstanding, dynamic teaching videos in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine that members of the ATS community have produced.

- Assemblies and sections are increasing their use of social media, particularly Twitter, to keep members and the larger respiratory community abreast of assembly, clinical, and scientific news. The number of "Conversations in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine" podcasts has also increased. Assemblies have been active in regularly producing these incisive, 20-minute discussions with experts.
- The Section on Medical Education added a speaker coaching program and a research design consulting service for members interested in conducting research in medical education.

## COMMITTEES

More than 25 ATS Committees help ensure that the Society is achieving its mission and guide its governance. Among these Committees are the Clinicians Committee, Education Committee, Health Policy Committee, International Health Committee, Patient and Family Education Committee, Tobacco Action Committee, and Training Committee.



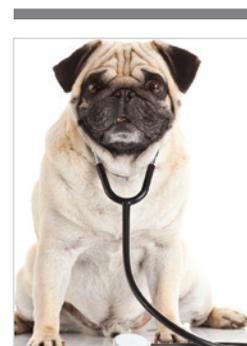
Committees are chaired by some of the most respected experts in the field, and members are representative of the diversity within ATS, including those with international perspectives. In the last decade, the ATS has made a concerted effort to include fellows and other members in training on virtually every committee, thus introducing a new generation of professionals and members to the activities and governance of the ATS.

#### **CORPORATE ALLIANCES**

The ATS works collaboratively with our colleagues in industry. More than 10 percent of our members claim “industry” as a work setting.

- At ATS 2018, the ATS Drug/Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee sponsored the 4th Annual BEAR (Building Education to Advance Research) Cage Competition. Three finalists pitched their innovative research ideas to a panel of translational science experts for an opportunity to win \$5,000. The finalists received a distance mentor from the DDDD Committee to help them further develop their projects.

- The ATS awarded Best of Show to three exhibitors in recognition of the outstanding experience they created at ATS 2018. ATS provided a complimentary exhibitor effectiveness evaluation for the first time to help exhibitors maximize their impact at the International Conference.
- To combat physician burnout, a Restoring Joy to Medicine booth with therapy dogs was part of the ATS 2018 Exhibit Hall for the first time.
- The ATS and its partner Healthey held the first Respiratory Innovation Summit during ATS 2018. This one-day event brought together entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, patient advocates, and other opinion leaders to share ideas and propose solutions for some of the most intractable problems in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. The event was supported by Vyaire Medical (Premiere Sponsor); Genentech and Novartis (Strategic Sponsors); and AstraZeneca, MGC Diagnostics, and Pieris Pharmaceuticals (Supporting Sponsors).



*In 2019, the Restoring Joy to Medicine booth will be featuring therapy dogs.*

# The Society's Nuts and Bolts

## CORPORATE MEMBERS

### Benefactors

- Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc.
- AstraZeneca LP
- Bayer US
- Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Genentech
- GSK
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
- Sanofi Genzyme-Regeneron
- Sunovion Pharmaceuticals
- Teva Respiratory
- United Therapeutics Corporation

### Patrons

- Boston Scientific Corporation
- Gilead Sciences, Inc.
- Insmmed Incorporated
- Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals
- Mylan, Inc.
- PneumRx
- Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

### Supporters

- Bellerophon Therapeutics
- Santhera Pharmaceuticals
- Shionogi Inc.

### Friends

- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Fisher & Paykel Healthcare
- Pulmonx
- SomnoMed
- Vitalograph Ltd.
- Vivus

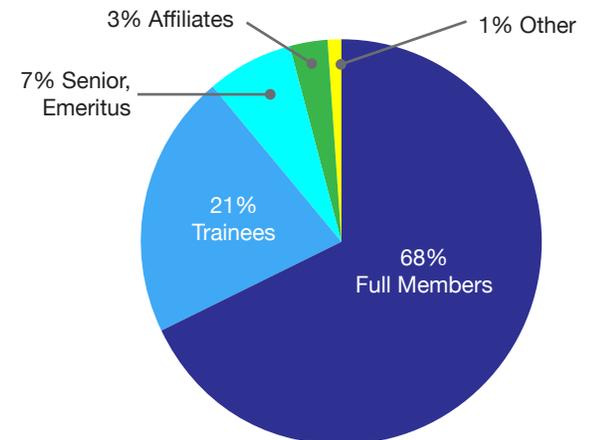
*The ATS Corporate Member Program has a new brand identity.*



## MEMBERSHIP

The ATS has more than 16,000 members in 130 countries around the world, with nearly a third of its members located in countries outside the U.S.

ATS membership has increased steadily, with an average of two percent growth per year over the past eight years. This growth has been in all member types.



The multi-year membership option continues to be popular, particularly for members outside the U.S. Applicants in trainee programs receive their first year of membership free, and international members pay reduced dues.

In 2018, the Society continued its ATS Fellow (ATSF) program for the second year, conferring ATSF status on 96 members. This designation is a mark of distinction that recognizes members for their contributions to the fields of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine and their dedication to the Society.

## CHAPTERS

Expanding the ATS chapter program continues to be a priority for the ATS. In 2018 we welcomed one new chapter, in Indiana, to bring the total to 23. We encourage inquiries from

members wishing to start a chapter to contact us at [chapters@thoracic.org](mailto:chapters@thoracic.org). Highlights for 2018 included:

- Annual Hill Day features representatives from numerous chapters who meet in Washington to meet with their representatives to discuss issues pertinent to the practice of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine, including support for research funding for related diseases.
- The Council of Chapter Representatives sponsors the ATS Outstanding Clinician Award and hosts the Great Cases Symposium, both of which occur at the International Conference.
- Chapter meetings offer a variety of networking and educational opportunities including full day conferences, skills-based workshops, journal clubs, dinner meetings, fellow forums, case presentations, and poster sessions. Most meetings are accredited for continuing medical education (CME).

## ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ATS is a leader among medical specialty societies in the extent to which ATS members and others involved in ATS activities provide information on their collaborations with pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, to assure that ATS activities meet the highest standards of scientific independence and integrity.

In 2018, the ATS adopted a new online platform to facilitate the disclosure of this information by the more than 17,000 physicians, researchers, and other health care professionals involved in ATS activities.

During the past year, the ATS Ethics Committee initiated a review of organizational policies regarding involvement with companies producing non-tobacco nicotine delivery systems, such as e-cigarettes and other vaping devices, and with the emerging cannabis industry.



*The Annual Hill Day featured representatives from ATS chapters, and ATS officers.*

# Budg

## ATS Financials

**THE ATS ENJOYS STRONG FINANCIAL HEALTH.** The financial highlights below represent the Society's position on December 31, 2018, the last year for which audited data is available.

As of December 31, 2018, the Society had current assets totaling \$13.2 million and investments totaling \$19.8 million. Property and intangibles totaled \$4.3 million. Total assets equaled to \$37.3 million compared to \$37.8 million at the end of 2017.

The Society had current liabilities of \$12.2 million. This included \$9.1 million of deferred revenue and \$395K owed to the ATS Foundation.

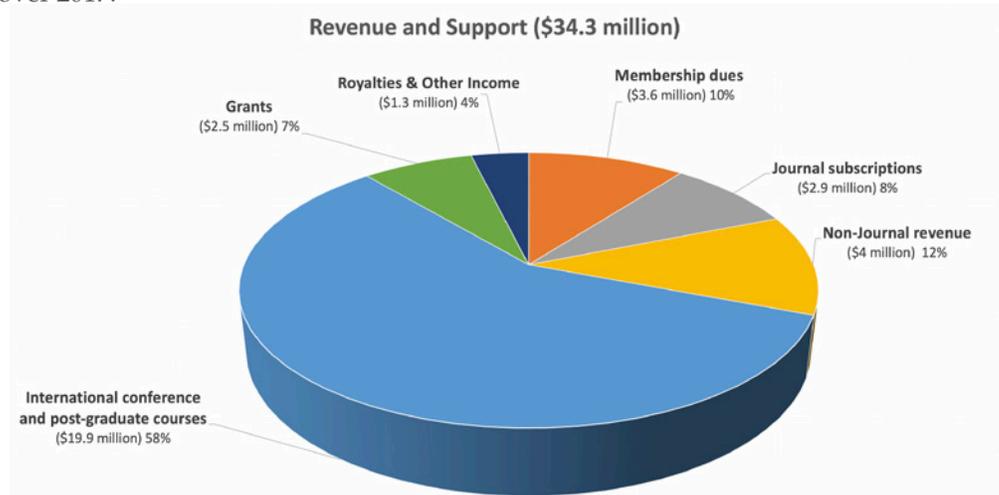
The ATS had Total Net Assets of \$24.1 million.

Total revenue and support for 2018 was \$34.3 million consistent with prior year. Expenses totaled \$35.5 million in 2018 an increase of \$4.1 million over 2017.

Program expenses were 70 percent of total expenses; supporting services were 30 percent of total expenses.

Total operating deficit equaled \$1.2 million. Non-operating loss on disposal of property and equipment and loss on investment performance totaled to \$662K.

The total decrease in net assets of \$2.3 million is a result of changes in revenue, expenditures, non-operating investment losses, disposal of equipment loss, and the provision for income taxes.



# et

| Month    | Amount |
|----------|--------|
| June     | 2,000  |
| December | 3,000  |
| January  | 5,000  |

| Month | Amount |
|-------|--------|
| ber   | 450    |
| ber   | 600    |

**1.**  
Enter your income information in the income tables.

- Food
- Gas
- Credit Card
- Entertainment

50,000

37,500

### ATS Comparative 2018/2017 expenses

|                          | 2018       | %   | 2017       | %   |
|--------------------------|------------|-----|------------|-----|
| International Conference | 11,345,697 | 32  | 9,138,675  | 29  |
| AJRCCM                   | 2,874,325  | 8   | 2,797,565  | 9   |
| AJRCMB                   | 845,251    | 2   | 682,122    | 2   |
| AnnalsATS                | 836,872    | 2   | 767,718    | 2   |
| Membership               | 810,944    | 2   | 878,601    | 3   |
| Assemblies               | 1,465,407  | 4   | 1,224,987  | 4   |
| International            | 1,653,343  | 5   | 1,550,088  | 5   |
| Education                | 3,549,814  | 10  | 3,386,673  | 11  |
| Research Administration  | 1,613,557  | 5   | 679,531    | 2   |
| Management               | 9,316,910  | 26  | 9,569,387  | 31  |
| Fundraising              | 1,247,939  | 4   | 689,698    | 2   |
| Totals                   | 35,560,059 | 100 | 31,365,045 | 100 |

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MSc, ATSF

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Vice Chair, Michael J. Lanspa, MD,  
MSCR, ATSF

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Chair, Kevin Kovitz, MD  
Vice Chair, Stephen Hoffmann, MD

Clinicians Advisory Committee  
Chair, Jaspal Singh, MD

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Vice Chair, Charlie Strange, MD

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Vice Chair, Jason Poston, MD  
Vice Chair, Tisha Wang, MD

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Committee  
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Vice Chair, Mary Rice, MD

Ethics and Conflict of Interest  
Committee  
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Vice Chair, Leonard Sicilian, MD

Finance Committee  
Chair, Polly Parsons, MD

Health Equality and Diversity  
Committee  
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