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Assembly on Clinical Problems

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IN THIS ISSUE

- Message from the Assembly Chair.....1
- Message from incoming Chair.....1-2
- Program Committee Report.....2
- Planning Committee Report.....2
- Early Career Professionals2-3
- Women in Clinical Problems Working Group Report.....3
- Industry Working Group Report.....3
- Free Patient Fact Sheets!.....3
- ATS Research Program.....4-5
- ATS Giving Opportunities.....5

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear Colleagues,

Well folks, this is my second attempt at a newsletter. The first one I had prepared right before the pandemic quickly became pointless! No conference this year was definitely not something I ever envisioned would have happened, but here we are!

As this will be my last official communication to the Clinical Problems Assembly, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone, in particular all of our committee members, for their hard work this past year. I am amazed and humbled at all of the work that has been accomplished during my two-year term.

During the past two years, I have continued to work towards better communication with all of you. One way we have been doing that is through our assembly Facebook Group which we have been using most recently for rapid transmission of information about COVID-19. Not a member? [Click here!](#) Our social media presence has also continued to grow. Please follow us on Twitter [here](#). Want to get more involved in the Assembly, check out our Get Involved page, sign up [here!](#)

I do have exciting news with respect to a potential name change for the Assembly that I plan to announce at the membership meeting, currently scheduled for Wednesday, June 24th at 7 to 9 pm EST/ 4 to 6 pm PST. I would love to have as many members present as possible. While this is not what we had originally envisioned, we will still be providing important updates and giving out our annual awards.

I realize that this is a time of uncertainty for all of us. Many of our members continue to work on the front lines of this pandemic while at the same time doing our best to protect our patients, friends, family members and loved ones. The ATS is here to support all of our members during this difficult time. Please find updated information on the ATS Response to COVID-19 here <https://www.thoracic.org/professionals/clinical-resources/disease-related-resources/novel-coronavirus.php>. Please stay tuned for more information about virtual ATS meeting content that will be scheduled for August. If I can be of assistance to any of you now or in the future, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

All my best,
MeiLan



Assembly Chair: MeiLan K. Han, MD, MS

MESSAGE FROM INCOMING CHAIR

Sonye K. Danoff, MD, PhD, ATSF, Assembly Chair-Elect

Dear CP Assembly Colleagues,

It has been a pleasure over the past year to work with MeiLan to “learn the ropes” as Clinical Problems Assembly Chair. She has been a great leader to learn from and I am sure that I speak for the Assembly as a whole in thanking her for the energy and wisdom she has provided over the past two years.

(continue to page 2)

MESSAGE FROM INCOMING CHAIR (continued)

I don't think that I could have imagined the reality of the current world health crisis as I envisioned taking on the leadership of the CP Assembly. Our Assembly has made up a large part of the frontline providers in the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to provide care for the many thousands of patients who require ongoing pulmonary care after their initial illness. While this is a daunting task, it also highlights the strength of the ATS and the CP Assembly in translating new knowledge into state-of-the-art patient care. I could not be prouder to work with you all as we navigate this new landscape together and bring the cumulative knowledge and experience of the CP Assembly members to improve the outcome for our patients.

In the year to come, I would like to continue MeiLan's efforts to make the CP Assembly a big tent that welcomes providers, researchers, educators of all backgrounds and interests to join in our goal of improving pulmonary care. I would especially like the CP Assembly to provide a home for our pulmonary trainees and junior faculty and clinicians. This Assembly best meets the needs of the members if each of you participates. Please let me know what topics you would like to see more information on, what methods of communication work best, and how you want to build this Assembly to meet your needs and goals.

I look forward to working with you over the next two years. I hope to meet many of you who I don't yet know and to renew friendships with those I do.

With best regards,
Sonye
sdanoff@jhmi.edu

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Maryl Kreider, MD, Chair, Jennifer Taylor-Cousar, Chair-Elect

The Clinical Problems Programming Committee had another very busy year. The committee was made up of 41 members who reviewed proposals for sessions and abstracts for this year's ATS meetings. Because clinical problems represents a diverse number of disease processes, the committee is responsible for reviewing and programming the largest number of sessions and abstracts of any of the assemblies program committees. For this year's ATS meeting the committee programmed 7 post graduate courses, 12 scientific symposia, 23 sunrise seminars and 15 meet the professors sessions. The task of reviewing and programming the abstracts is even larger. Before the late break abstracts, the committee reviewed 690 scientific abstract and another 590 case reports. These were programmed into 6 mini symposiums, 10 poster discussions and 21 thematic poster discussions. In addition to focus on reviewing and programming sessions, the committee is also always looking for experts willing and able to serve as facilitators for abstract sessions. Given these enormous task this committee has the ability to make a substantial impact on the science and focus of each year's annual meeting. While unfortunately this year's meeting did not end up happening in person, the importance of selecting and highlighting key trends in science and clinical care remains crucial to the mission of ATS. This committee remains fundamental to that mission.

We welcome two new apprentices to the 2020-2021 committee: Drs. Kristina Montemayor (mentor-Jen Taylor-Cousar) and Hayley Barnes (mentor-Joyce Lee).

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Brad Drummond, MD, Chair, George Washko, MD, Chair-Elect

The CP Planning Committee has had a productive last few months. In the Fall we reviewed and provided feedback on three new and seven renewal ATS Project Proposals for clinical practice guidelines, workshops, and research statements where CP was the primary assembly. The success rate for CP applications was quite impressive with 67% of the new applications and 100% of the renewal applications receiving funding! Congratulations to all the members contributing to these proposals. Now is the time for CP members to start thinking now about 2020 Project Proposals, as the deadline comes quickly after the International Conference. Feel free to reach out to the CP Planning Committee for assistance in proposal development. We will recognizing the recipients of our four Clinical Problems Assembly Awards at the upcoming CP Assembly meeting on Wednesday, June, 24th at 7 to 9 pm EST/ 4 to 6 pm EST. Please be sure to attend the Assembly meeting to congratulate your deserving colleagues.

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Lida Hariri, MD, and Karin Provost, MD, Co-Chairs

The main goal of the Clinical Problems Early Career Working Group is to help physicians in training and junior faculty in the early portion of their careers become more involved in the Clinical Problems Assembly and in the American Thoracic Society in general. We seek

(continue on page 3)

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT (continued)

to provide networking opportunities, to encourage career development, and to recruit interested members to become involved in Assembly projects and committees. Last year we launched the Clinical Problems Apprenticeship Program, where early career members applied to apprentice on the Clinical Problems Program or Planning Committee, under the guidance of a mentor from the respective committee. This gives the selected apprentices the opportunity to observe the functions of the Clinical Problems committees and to be directly involved in guiding the future of the CP Assembly. This year we had a record number of outstanding applications, and are happy to welcome Hayley Barnes MD and Kristina Montemayor MD to the Program Committee Apprenticeship Program, and Sam Ash MD, PhD and Teja Kulkarni MD, to the Planning Committee Apprenticeship Program, all for a 1-year term.

We are continuing our successful Mentoring Program, where mentees apply and are matching with mentors from around the country with similar interests, to provide some career advice and support. We are still accepting applications for this year's Mentoring Program, which closes March 15.

WOMEN IN CLINICAL PROBLEMS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Jessica Bon, MD, Co-Chair, Rupal Shah, MD, Co-Chair

We are continuing our monthly Women in Clinical Problems spotlight. Members featured this year include Jill Ohar, Lida Hariri, Maryl Kreider, Tejaswini Kulkarni, and Stephanie Maximous. Spotlight can be found on the Women in Clinical Problems working group web page, Clinical Problems Twitter feed, and Clinical Problems Facebook page. If you would like to nominate someone, please email Jessica Bon at bonjm@upmc.edu. In collaboration with the Early Career Working Group, we published a guide to getting involved in the Clinical Problems Assembly. The guide was disseminated via email blast in December and will be posted on the CP assembly web page.

We always welcome new members. If you are interested in joining our working group, please email Rupal Shah (rupal.shah@ucsf.edu) or Jessica Bon (bonjm@upmc.edu).

INDUSTRY WORKING GROUP REPORT

Mary Strek, MD, Co-Chair, and Antonio Anzueto, MD, Co-Chair

The Industry Working group is a resource for ATS members interested in partnering with industry to conduct clinical investigations and obtain research support or wishing to explore a career in industry. It is also an assembly home for ATS members who work in industry. In addition to web meetings, we are developing podcasts for the CP Assembly Website on: "Why Choose a Career in Industry", "How to Become a Clinical Trialist" and "How to Obtain an Investigator Initiated Grant". We welcome new members (email mstrek@medicine.bsd.uchicago.edu).

Free Patient Fact Sheets!

The ATS Patient Information Series contains over 150 high quality, patient-friendly fact sheets on topics such as COPD, PFTs, OSA, and special topics such as COVID-19. These fact sheets are free and accessible from the ATS Website at www.thoracic.org/patients. If you would like to serve as an author, reviewer, or have topic suggestions, contact Judy Corn, ATS Staff, at jcorn@thoracic.org.



ATS 2020 | VIRTUAL IS COMING



ATS 2020 | VIRTUAL

August 2020

American Thoracic Society

ATS Research Program

Spread the word: Apply for a Research Grant

- Last year, ATS awarded 25 grants totaling over \$1.2 million
- Two grants are accepting applications now
 - ATS/CHEST Foundation Research Grant in Diversity
 - ATS/GSK Research Grant in COVID-19
 - Application Deadline June 23rd
- Annual Grant Portfolio opens June 1st
 - Letter of Intent Deadline August 25th

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263 young investigators who have gone on to secure **\$330 million in federal funding**
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ATS Giving Opportunities

Make a gift today!

- **Research Program:** provides lifeline funding for young investigators pursuing promising cures and treatments for lung-disease patients
- **MECOR:** improving global health through research and education
- **Ziskind Clinical Research Scholar Awards:** recognizing outstanding clinical researchers
- **Assembly Awards & Scholarships:** supporting ATS assembly awards and scholarships
- **Assembly Programs:** supporting ATS Assembly programmatic activities
- **Medical Education Research:** fueling novel educational approaches for training medical residents, fellows, and junior faculty
- **Philip Hopewell Prize for Global Respiratory Health Research:** recognizing early-career investigators from developing countries for their published research in a peer-reviewed journal

Reminder: The ATS Foundation dissolved in February, 2020. All Foundation programs are now part of the ATS



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