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Pulmonary Rehabilitation

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Editor: Roger S. Goldstein, MD

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear Assembly colleagues,

It is with pleasure that I am enclosing our Spring 2015 newsletter and I thank the many of you who have contributed to it. Your Executive Committee would be pleased to receive further contributions as short comments on the newsletter or points of information that may be of interest to our members. Just send them to the Assembly mailbox at PR@thoracic.org.



Roger S. Goldstein, MD

This newsletter comes just before the Spring ATS meeting and the program this year is as varied and engaging as ever. Hopefully we will see many of you in Denver. Please feel welcome to attend our annual PR Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 18th at 5 p.m. It is friendly and doesn't go on for too long. This leaves an opportunity for you to network with colleagues and meet the Assembly Executive Committee. Please note, the Executive will be there at of 4:30pm to meet greet and speak with anyone who has ideas for the Assembly and especially with new members or potential members.

For those unable to attend, please use our newsletter as a way of staying in touch. We are working with a superb new President of the ATS- Tom Ferkol, who brings an enriching calm thoughtfulness to this position.

At the meeting I will be handing over the Assembly Chair position to Dr. Carolyn Rochester. Carly is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Yale, where she is the Medical Director of the clinical COPD program and the Medical Director of Pulmonary Rehabilitation at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System.

Carly has held numerous positions within the ATS. She Co-Chaired the ATS Section on Pulmonary Rehabilitation from 1999 to 2001 and has been a founding member of the PR Assembly. She has been a member of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Nominating Committee from 2011-2012 and served as Chair of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Program Committee in 2013.

Message from the Assembly Chair (cont')

Carly has been a key member of the task forces and writing committees for the ATS Statement on Pulmonary Rehabilitation (1999) and the joint ATS/ERS Statement on Pulmonary Rehabilitation (2006 and 2013), as well as the ERS Statement on Physical Activity (2014). She is the Co-Chair of the Task Force to who have nearly completed the official ATS/ERS Policy Statement on PR. The Assembly will be in very good hands.

PULMONARY REHABILITATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Anne Holland, PhD, Chair & Sally J. Singh, PhD, Program Chair- Elect

Anne Holland, our Program Chair, received her PhD from the University of Melbourne and is currently an Associate Professor of Physiotherapy at La Trobe University and Alfred Health. Together with her committee she has done a superb job of bringing this excellent program to the ATS for the Denver meeting. The Pulmonary Rehabilitation assembly is well represented, with several sessions distributed across all the days of the meeting. All ATS members and especially those of our Assembly are welcome at the following events:

This year the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly received 90 abstract submissions plus 5 late breaking submissions, numbers which are similar to those over the last 2 years. Notably we have had very good quality submissions this year, with enough RCTs in pulmonary rehabilitation to fill an entire mini-symposium (to be held on Monday 18th May).

ATS 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY ON PULMONARY REHABILITATION SESSIONS

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Friday, May 15, 2015			
PG4	NEW APPROACHES TO EVALUATING FUNCTION AND EXERCISE IN PATIENTS WITH PULMONARY DISEASE	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Saturday, May 16, 2015			
PG24	ATS AND ERS STATEMENT UPDATES IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION, SKELETAL MUSCLE DYSFUNCTION, NUTRITION, FIELD TESTING, AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A88	MANAGING AN ACUTE EXACERBATION OF COPD: IS PULMONARY REHABILITATION THE SOLUTION?	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C8	CROSSING SPECIALTY BOUNDARIES: COPD, COMORBIDITIES AND PULMONARY REHABILITATION	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Workshop Sessions			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
WS4	RESTORING YOUTH: PULMONARY REHABILITATION FOR ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS	11:45 AM	2:15 PM <small>Continued on next page</small>

Sunrise Seminars			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
SS115	IMAGING SKELETAL MUSCLE IN COPD: CURRENT TOOLS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
MP512	EXERCISE REHABILITATION FOR PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposium			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B16	NEW RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIALS IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C107	NEW INTERVENTIONS AND OUTCOMES IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A55	RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION: BROADENING THE SCOPE	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B55	EXERCISE TESTING AND SYMPTOM EVALUATION IN CHRONIC RESPIR-	9:30 AM	4:15 PM

Program Planning for Next Year

We encourage all members of the PR assembly to get involved in the planning for next year's ATS meeting! The first discussions regarding possible session topics will take place at the PR Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 19th at 5 p.m. Please do plan to attend! These initial ideas will be discussed further at the Program Committee Meeting at ATS. Ideas for symposia can also be discussed after the ATS meeting with Anne Holland, the Program Committee Chair for 2014-2015, or with other members of the Program Committee or the PR Assembly leadership. Session Proposals are developed and then uploaded onto the ATS website for submission in early June.

Each year, the Assembly Program committee reviews grades and ranks all sessions submitted for consideration, including sunrise seminars, major symposia, meet the professor sessions and ideas for postgraduate courses. The number of sessions each assembly gets on the program is determined by the number of scientific abstract submissions that each assembly receives (keep those abstracts coming!).

Currently, based on the number of abstracts received, the PR assembly is allocated two major symposia, one mini-symposium, two poster discussion sessions and two thematic poster sessions. Additional symposia sessions can occasionally be obtained and programmed if accepted to the program as a joint proposal between the PR assembly and one or more other ATS assemblies. The actual dates and time for each assembly's sessions are determined at the International Conference Committee Meetings in the fall. Day and time slots for the major symposia for all of the ATS assemblies are determined by drawing "out of a hat" in an effort to maintain fairness across Assemblies.

We encourage everyone to get involved, by submitting abstracts and ideas for all the various types of sessions. We look forward to hearing from you!

Program Planning For Next Year (Cont'd)

Sue Lareau served as the Associate Web Editor for Patient Education-AWEP between 2009 and 2014. Sue is one of the founders and past chair of the PRA. She is active on the ATS's Education and Documents, Development and Implementation Committees. The current AWEP is Marianna Sockrider MD, DPH.

PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR YEAR 2014

Rebecca Crouch, PT, DPT, CCS

Rebecca Crouch continues to guide our planning committee, to which we are always keen to welcome new members. Melissa Bednarek has been working with Rebecca as co-chair in transition 2014-2015 and we are very excited about her assuming the chair at the 2015 meeting.

The Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Planning Committee submitted two new PR Assembly project proposals in 2014 and two PR Assembly renewal projects. Although the new projects will require refinement and resubmission, both renewal projects were approved. Dr. Carolyn Rochester and Dr. Ioannis Vogiatzis's joint ATS/ERS project, "ATS/ERS Official Policy Statement on Pulmonary Rehabilitation" was approved as well as Dr. Anne Holland's "Update of the ATS 6-minute walk test statement". The Assembly was a co-sponsor on two additional projects that were approved: Dr. Kevin Wilson's "An official ATS/ERS research statement: Research questions in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease" and Dr. Raghu Ganesh's "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis--Evidence based ATS-ERS-JRS-ALAT Guideline for diagnosis and clinical management--A living document with periodical updates".

The 2015 ATS Pulmonary Rehabilitation Planning Committee will have a breakfast meeting Sunday, May 17 from 6:45 AM--8:15 AM. The meeting will take place at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in Director Row E.. Please bring ideas for new projects, the proposal submission date comes soon after the ATS conference.

ATS Launches New Website

Stephen Altobelli, Senior Director of Strategic Planning

In late February the American Thoracic Society launched its new, redesigned website (www.thoracic.org). The site is designed to be more intuitive and to make it easier for visitors to find the information they need. The site displays information related to membership, patients, clinical and research activities, education, professional development, advocacy and general activities of the Society. The Assemblies can be found under the tab "Professionals" sub tab "ATS Resources" sub tab Assemblies and Sections".

The redesigned website is an important element in the larger ATS strategy to increase its overall visibility by telling the broader story of the Society and the work of its members. It is hoped that the website will become a core resource for those interested in pulmonary, critical care and/or sleep medicine. It is designed to provide information of interest to scientists, healthcare professionals, patients and families.

The ATS welcomes feedback on the website which should go to www.thoracic.org/about/contact.php.

WEB COMMITTEE UPDATE

Frits Franssen, MD, PhD

Dr. Frits Franssen has again played a key role in the development of our web activities. Luckily for us Frits has agreed to stay for another year (2015-2016) which will enable Dr. Rachael Evans (Leicester UK) a transition year before chairing the committee. The results of Frits's initiatives and perseverance have turned this committee into one of our most exciting.

Journal Clubs

Since ATS 2014, the Web Committee organized further online Journal Clubs in October, November, February and March 2015. In October Dr. Thierry Troosters (Leuven, Belgium) presented the paper by Beauchamp and colleagues entitled: 'A randomized controlled trial of balance training during pulmonary rehabilitation for individuals with COPD' published in CHEST 2013. Discussion was stimulated by Prof. Sally Singh (Leicester, UK).

In November, Dr. Roger Goldstein (Toronto, Canada) discussed the paper by Greening et al. entitled: 'An early rehabilitation intervention to enhance recovery during hospital admission for an exacerbation of chronic respiratory disease: randomised controlled trial', published in the BMJ in 2014 with Rebecca Crouch (Chapel Hill, US) and Chris Garvey (Daly City, US) as online discussion panelists.

In February 2015, Dr. Roberto Benzo (Rochester, US) presented the paper entitled 'The 4-metre gait speed in COPD: responsiveness and minimal clinically important difference'. This paper was published in 2014 in the Eur Respir J by Samantha Kon and co-authors from the UK. Prof. Mick Steiner (Leicester, UK) was our online discussion panelist.

Finally, on March 10th, Dr. Jean Bourbeau (Montréal, Canada) presented the paper entitled 'Self-management for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease'. This review was published in 2014 in The Cochrane Database by Zwerink and co-workers. Sue Lareau (Denver, US) was our online discussion panelist.

Twitter

At our last ATS meeting in San Diego, the Web Committee launched the official Twitter account of the PR Assembly (@PR_Assembly). Literature updates, news, Journal Club announcements and other issues related to the Assembly are regularly communicated through this account. Meanwhile, the Assembly has gathered more than 100 followers and quite an amount of 'retweets' and 'favorites'.

Podcasts

Currently, the Web Committee is preparing for the recording of its first ATS Podcast. This will cover the topic 'Pulmonary rehabilitation for non-obstructive lung diseases'. Dr. Klaus Kenn (Schoenau am Koenigssee, Germany) will be interviewed on the scientific evidence, special considerations and other important aspects of PR in these patients. After editing, the Podcast will be available on the ATS website.

Video content

The web committee is delighted to announce that it has been approved to add video content to the website. The first video will be a 10 minute documentary on the organization of Pulmonary Rehabilitation in the Netherlands, filed in Dutch with the addition of English subtitles being funded by the Assembly. Suggestions for video content of the website are very welcome.

Web committee meeting

During ATS in Denver this May, the web committee will meet Monday, May 18th 12N - 1:30PM to plan for the coming year. Anyone interested in joining this committee should contact us at pr@thoracic.org or just come along to the meeting.

WEB COMMITTEE UPDATE (Cont'd)

Our gallery of officers and committee members is almost completely populated. In this way, we have increased the visibility of our Assembly leadership to encourage easier interactions among us.

European Respiratory Society

Ioannis Vogiatzis, PhD

The current chair of the ERS Scientific Group 01.02) is Dr Ioannis Vogiatzis who has been a strong supporter and active member of our Assembly and has co-chaired the ATS-ERS Statement on Rehabilitation. The ERS Scientific Group 01.02., is the group most similar to our rehabilitation assembly and we share interests and experiences on an ongoing basis.

This link, broadens our international platform and embraces interdisciplinary discussions on rehabilitation and chronic care. Many of our members also attend the annual ERS International Congress which is to be held in Amsterdam (Sept 26th to 30th) this year. In addition to all the aspects of rehabilitation, the chronic care aspect of the group includes palliative care, advance life directives, end-of-life communication, home care, E-health, self-management and more. The Section has been kind enough to share with us their monthly literature update, which many of us read with interest.

Joint ERS/ATS projects include: The New ATS/ERS Policy Statement on Pulmonary Rehabilitation (2015), the Statement on Rehabilitation (2013), the Statement on Skeletal Muscle Dysfunction in COPD (2014), the Official Systematic Review of "Measurement Properties of Field Walking Tests (2014), and the Technical Standard: Field Walking Tests in Chronic Respiratory Disease (2014). By working together we better understand the regional differences exist in rehabilitation program content, structure, access and capacity.

ATS Patient Education Resources

Suzanne C. Lareau, RN, MS, FAAN

ATS has a wealth of patient education resources on its website at <http://www.thoracic.org/patients/patient-resources/fact-sheets-az.php>. There are currently more than 70 high quality patient-oriented fact sheets on a range of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep topics including both common and rare conditions. Fact sheets regarding common procedures and diagnostic tests include; sleep studies, lung function studies, and bronchoscopy. Special focus topics of interest to pulmonary rehabilitation include; oxygen therapy, inhaler technique, exacerbations of COPD, palliative care and lung cancer.

These documents are available at no cost to download and print. If you have an idea for a topic or a question about obtaining copies of the patient resources, please contact Judy Corn at jcorn@thoracic.org. Guidelines are available for submissions that are brief (600 words), such as the one on *Alternative Tobacco Products* (2010) or longer versions (<1400 words). The brief documents (one page, one side) are loaded onto the ATS website. The longer versions are often published in *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* (AJRCCM).

ATS/ERS Taskforce on Policy in Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Carolyn L. Rochester, MD

Since May 2013, the ATS/ERS Task Force on Policy in Pulmonary Rehabilitation has been developing a joint Policy Statement to address the existing gap between the well-established evidence documenting benefits of PR for

ATS/ERS Taskforce on Policy in Pulmonary Rehabilitation (Cont')

persons with COPD and other forms of chronic respiratory disease, and the actual delivery of PR services world-wide.

ATS FOUNDATION

James F. Donohue, MD & Lydia Neumann

Dr. James Donohue is Division Director Emeritus of the Department of Pulmonary, Critical Care at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is a leading expert on COPD. He has been the Chair of the ATS Foundation since 2010.

Lydia Neumann is director of the foundation and is working with the board of trustees on the Tenth Anniversary Campaign, an initiative to raise \$3 million over three years for research.

The Foundation of the American Thoracic Society was established 10 years ago and each year, the amount of funding for research has increased. The Foundation has been a leader amongst all professional medical associations in the number and size of grants that we have awarded to early stage investigators in pulmonary critical care and sleep medicine. Many of the funds are raised from the members themselves of the ATS. In fact, over 1,000 members or 12% are contributing to our young investigators. Thanks to ATS members' support in 2014, the ATS Foundation awarded a total of \$1 million in grants to 29 outstanding young investigators in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. The Foundation is increasing the number of unrestricted grants for each of the ATS 3 pillars: Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine.

Overall, in 2014, the Foundation succeeded in:

- More than doubling the number of unrestricted grants to outstanding early-stage investigators (awards became increasingly translational as we were able to increase the number of critical care and sleep awards);
- Providing recognition awards to seven promising young investigators who submitted excellent applications that just missed the NIH pay line;
- Awarding partner grants to seven early-stage investigators working on cures and treatments for pulmonary fibrosis, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, pulmonary hypertension, and more;
- Awarding four grants through our Grants-For-Hire program for organizations that wish to maintain sovereignty over their research program, but wish to access the ATS peer review process;
- Providing grants to exceptional ATS MECOR Program alumni—improving global health through research and education in middle and low income countries.

We are pleased to report that one of the awardees, Amy Pastva, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor, DPT Division, at Duke University's School of Medicine, is the recipient of an unrestricted research award in critical care. Dr. Pastva's investigation is designed to assess the efficacy of supine cycling for patients at high risk for Intensive Care Unit-acquired weakness (ICUAW). The study will be one of the first of its kind in the USA and will serve as a parallel site to concurrent trial with the University of Melbourne, Austin Health, Australia, and Johns Hopkins, USA.

We are very pleased with the support that the Foundation has received from the ATS PR Assembly and look forward to encountering many of the members at the ATS Benefit and the International Conference in Denver. For more information and to donate, please visit: foundation.thoracic.org

Pulmonary Rehabilitation

To: PR Primary Members

Subject: What would you like to ask the ATS Executive Committee or the ATS Journal Editors? Send us your Questions!

ATS Executive Committee welcomes questions from ATS Members

Rather than provide a formal presentation as has been done in years past, the ATS Executive Committee would like to answer questions posed by you in the time allotted for their visit to each Assembly. The current Executive Committee includes President Thomas Ferkol, President-Elect Atul Malhotra, Vice President David Gozal and Secretary-Treasurer and Immediate Past President Patricia Finn. Now is your chance to have the EC representative address your specific questions or concerns about the Society.

The ATS Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation Membership Meeting will take place at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in Governor's Square 14 on Monday May 18th from 5:00 – 7:00 PM for the PR Assembly

Please email all questions to PR@thoracic.org

ATS Journal Editors welcome questions from ATS Members

The ATS Journal Editors are also willing to entertain specific questions rather than making a formal presentation. Current ATS Journal Editors include Jacob Iasha Sznajder (AJRCCM), Kenneth B. Adler (AJRCMB), and John Hansen-Flaschen (Annals of ATS). If you have ever wondered about the inner workings of the journals or how you can get more involved, this would be the time and place to ask. The editors will do their best to answer these questions during the Assembly Membership Meetings at the International Conference.

Please email all questions to PR@thoracic.org

Assembly Chair - Closing Remarks

Roger S. Goldstein, MD

Our assembly continues to thrive as seen by our many activities. Please encourage colleagues to join. You may choose to make this your Primary Assembly, or to include it as one of your Secondary Assemblies. Either can be accomplished by sending your request to <http://thoracic.org/membership/index.php>. If you live outside of the US, membership fees are considerably less e.g. \$40 for full membership. See <http://www.thoracic.org/membership/categories-and-fees.php> for an outline of fees and categories. The strength and clinical messages of Pulmonary Rehabilitation are best seen in the abstracts and presentations at the Spring ATS International Conference in Denver (May 15-20, 2015).

Roger S. Goldstein, MD

Chair, Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2015 ATS International Conference in Denver

If you're developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Policy Statement, Research Statement, Clinical Practice Guideline, Workshop Report, or Technical Standards), please consider attending one or more of these free opportunities while you are in Denver at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop: Friday, May 15th from 6-9 PM, Governor's 14, Concourse Level, Plaza Building, Sheraton Denver Downtown. This session is required for both current and new guideline panel chairs, as well as the chairs of new document projects. The session is recommended for the chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Please RSVP to Katrina Gorres at kgorres@thoracic.org if you have not already done so. The schedule is as follows:
 - o 6-7 PM – Presentations by DDIC members about the Official Document types, methodological requirements for each, and other practical issues (e.g., conflict of interest management, review, and approval); a light dinner will be served.
 - o 7-9 PM – Current guideline chairs (or their designees) will give progress reports and then troubleshoot informally with DDIC members and ATS staff. New guideline chairs will have the opportunity to listen to these reports and learn about the “trials and tribulations” of guideline development from experienced peers.
- Guideline methodology training program: All ATS clinical practice guidelines require the support of an experienced methodologist; however, there is a shortage of methodologists from which to derive the support. The ATS has a guideline methodology training program that provides on-the-job training to individuals who are interested in becoming a methodologist. Applications for the training program are available at <http://www.thoracic.org/statements/document-development/index.php>. An informational session is being held on Monday, May 18th from 7 pm until 8:30 pm at the ATS International Conference for anyone who is interested in learning more about the program. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Kevin C. Wilson, MD, ATS Senior Director of Documents and Medical Affairs at kwilson@thoracic.org. Space is limited.
- Ad Hoc meetings: If your project committee is having a full day, half day, or meal meeting in Denver, you have the opportunity to schedule an appointment for Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor and ATS Senior Director of Documents and Medical Affairs) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist) to stop by your committee meeting to discuss and answer questions about Official ATS Documents. To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at kwilson@thoracic.org or Jan Brozek at brozekj@mcmaster.ca. Please indicate the name of your panel and a range of time that would be appropriate for their visit.
- Office Hours: Stop by our second annual “Office Hours” to meet and talk with Dr. Kevin Wilson and/or Dr. Jan Brozek about any Official ATS Document related matters. Contact John Harmon at jharmon@thoracic.org for dates and times.

ATS Patient Education Resources

- ATS continues to expand its patient education resources - there are currently more than 70 high quality patient oriented fact sheets on a range of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep topics including both common and rare diseases such as COPD, VCD, and HPS; common procedures and diagnostic tests such as sleep studies, lung function studies, and bronchoscopy; and special focus topics including palliative care and lung cancer prevention. These fact sheets are available at no cost via the ATS website at www.thoracic.org under the Patients Tab. See pieces that you like? Feel free to use them in your practice and share them with others! Have new topics you'd like to propose? Contact Judy Corn at jcorn@thoracic.org with your ideas and feedback.

ATS Assembly Members Give Generously to the ATS Foundation

At the 2014 Leadership Summit, assembly leaders voted to establish an ATS Assembly Challenge in support of the ATS Foundation. The Challenge kicked off on #GivingTuesday, on December 2, 2014, a special day worldwide dedicated to the joy of giving, and ran all month long.

Gifts both large and small were received and much appreciated. December giving from assembly members rose from \$121,970 in 2013 to \$170,974 in 2014—an increase of \$49,000! These gifts are greatly meaningful to young investigators at risk of terminating their careers in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. Your generous gifts to the ATS Foundation help launch careers dedicated to scientific discovery and better patient care.



Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology; Gregory P. Downey, MD, chair for the Assembly on Allergy Immunology & Inflammation; and Kristin A. Riekert, PhD, chair for the Assembly on Behavioral Science and Health Services Research, proudly display their 2014 ATS Assembly Challenge awards

Personal outreach from assembly chairs especially helped drive giving to the ATS Foundation.

“Without member support, amazing programs such as MECOR and young investigator research grants wouldn’t exist. If every ATS member gave even a small donation, even more ground-breaking research and training could be supported,” said **Kristin A. Riekert, PhD**, chair for the Assembly on Behavioral Science and Health Services Research.

Dr. Riekert sent personal messages to her fellow BSHR members to encourage them to give, and capitalized on the momentum of #GivingTuesday to encourage giving. That outreach made a tremendous difference.

Naftali Kaminski, MD, chair for the Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology, also sent messages to his fellow RCMB members and spurred giving through #GivingTuesday.

“For me the participation of RCMB members in the assembly challenge was very, very meaningful,” said Dr. Kaminski. “The fact that they made the effort and donated (and many did) demonstrated their commitment to our community and to the future of respiratory research.”

There were three ways to win the Challenge: be the assembly with the most dollars raised in 2014, be the assembly with the highest member participation rate, and be the assembly with the largest average gift per member.

Allergy Immunology & Inflammation raised the most dollars in the ATS Assembly Challenge with \$63,549. **Behavioral Science and Health Services Research** had the highest member participation with 20.86%, and the largest average gift per member with \$98.27. **Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology**'s outstanding outreach efforts led to the creation of a brand new award in recognition of having the most first-time givers. Their outreach efforts inspired 26 members to give to the Foundation for the very first time during December alone!

Congratulations to the Allergy Immunology & Inflammation, Behavioral Science and Health Services Research, and Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology assemblies! They will receive special recognition in a number of ATS communications, at ATS 2015, and within their own assemblies.

The ATS Foundation would like to thank all ATS assemblies for their generous support and for rising to the challenge. Your giving is life-changing for young investigators, patients, and communities worldwide. To learn more about the ATS Foundation or to make a gift, visit foundation.thoracic.org.

Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation Membership Meeting

*Monday, May 18th
5:00pm-7:00pm*

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel

*Governor's Square 14
Concourse Level*

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2016!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2015. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at www.thoracic.org.

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair Melissa Bednarek, PT, DPT, PhD at mbednarek@chatham.edu.

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: mrodriguez@thoracic.org.

Help Us Help You!

Have you:

- moved,
- changed your title,
- added a new specialty, credential or other information?

Or perhaps we just do not have a complete profile for you!

Please take a minute to update your contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile today. And now you can also upload your PHOTO to your member profile! Log in [HERE](#).

[link is: <https://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php>]

By keeping your profile current, you help us provide programs and services that are targeted to you, and it also ensures accuracy when you register for the International Conference.

Connect with your ATS assembly on social networks for the latest on journal clubs, webinars, ATS International Conference activities, and much more!

On Facebook:

ATS All Assembly
ATS SRN Assembly
ATS MTPI
ATS Assembly on
Thoracic Oncology

ATS RSF Assembly
RCMB Assembly
of the American
Thoracic Society
ATS Section on Genetics
and Genomics

ATS Environmental,
Occupational and
Population Health
Early Faculty/Fellows
ATS Nursing Assembly

On Twitter:

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@ATS_RSF



Also look for the main ATS social media accounts:

Twitter: @atscommunity

Facebook: American Thoracic Society

Instagram: atsccommunity

LinkedIn: American Thoracic Society



Enter the BEAR Cage

Hosted by the ATS Drug Device Discovery and Development (DDDD) Committee, the BEAR Cage (Building Education to Advance Research) competition was open to all ATS members who are early career investigators. Applicants were asked to submit an innovative clinical or translational research proposal for consideration and the opportunity to participate in the live BEAR Cage at ATS 2015. You are invited to join us at the Science and Innovation Center to see the selected top three finalists competitively “pitch” their highly innovative research proposals to a panel of translational science experts representing academia, industry, and governmental sectors in front of a live audience. The panel, with audience participation, will vet the proposals with each presenter and ultimately award a grand prize winner a \$5,000 prize as well as two runner-up proposals, each receiving \$2,500. The goal of this unique event is to promote productive discussion of these innovative research ideas in the setting of a fun, yet competitive, forum promoting opportunities for collaboration, mentorship, and improvement of the research proposal. To build on this concept, a DDDD committee-sponsored “project advisory team” will provide feedback and distance mentorship to the awardees over the ensuing year.

Refer a Fellow to the ATS!

Do you know a Fellow who could benefit from ATS membership? Nearly 20 per cent of ATS members are currently in training, and many ATS leaders joined as Fellows too. And there's a BONUS! ATS Trainee Members receive their **first year of membership for FREE!** After the first year, trainee member dues are just \$100 per year for US members, and \$40 per year for international members, as long as the member is still in training. Read what Trainee members say about the value of membership:

ATS membership helps you to keep up-to-date with innovations in pulmonary medicine with access to journals, publications, guidelines and the Fellows corner.

Ajay Kasi, California

The ATS membership is the best option to participate in the world's biggest thoracic society, be an important part of scientific exchange and access the best scientific publications.

Adrian Ceccato, Argentina

My membership gives me the opportunity to expand my knowledge on pulmonary diseases in general and in interstitial lung diseases in particular through news, e-mails, journals, special learning opportunities (like the ILD video series) and the annual meeting.

Sandra Chartrand, Canada