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Thoracic Oncology

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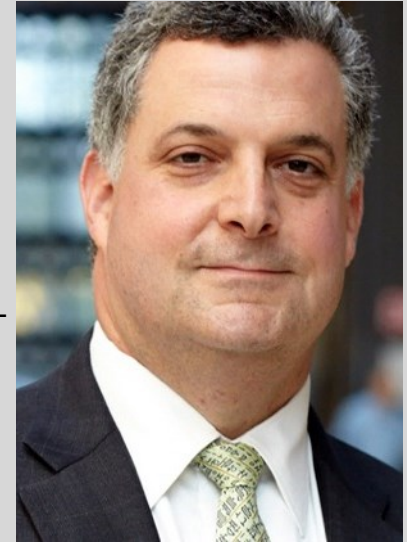
MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

As a new member of the ATS Assembly family, the Thoracic Oncology Assembly has quickly established itself as an active, engaged, and integral body within the Society.

Our activities range from advocacy for lung cancer screening, development of policy statements and guidelines, programming for the 2015 ATS International Conference, establishing collaborations with our partner societies around the globe, and developing content and programming directed towards the junior members of our Society and to members in training.

We are excited and proud of all of these accomplishments, many of which are covered in more detail in our newsletter. Of these, we should see an immediate impact of our efforts advocating for lung cancer screening. In these efforts, I travelled twice to meet with CMS along with our colleagues from ACR, ACCP, ACS, amongst others. We emphasized that we supported coverage for screening of high risk smokers within a structure designed to maximize the benefits and to minimize the risks of population based screening. In collaboration with ACCP, we developed and published a Policy Statement (reference) outlining criteria that could help to achieve this goal and in the CMS Final Coverage Decision, our Policy Statement was prominently cited. We anticipate that TOA Projects on Nodule Management and on Implementation of Lung Cancer CT screening shortly will produce publications that will provide further pragmatic guidance to our members on implementation of lung cancer screening programs.

In May, Michael Gould will take over as Chair of the Assembly from 2015 – 2017. The transition will be seamless and the Assembly will be in great hands as we move forward from the initiation phase to the growth and maturation phases of Assembly development. It has been a pleasure to work with the ATS and Assembly membership and leadership as we have progressed from a Section to an Assembly that has quickly demonstrated the importance of Thoracic Oncology for the current and future growth of the American Thoracic Society.



Charles A. Powell, MD

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

James R. Jett, MD , Chair

Two documents of the Thoracic Oncology Assembly are near completion and we anticipate publication in 2015-16: (1) Preparing for Implementation of Lung Cancer Screening in US, chaired by Dr. Renda Wiener; (2) Evaluation of Pulmonary Nodules: an Agenda for Research and Implementation in Practice, chaired by Dr. Chris Slatore.

The 2014 Planning Committee selected two projects for submission to the ATS leadership for consideration for funding. They are: (1) Patient-centered outcomes in screening; (2) Standards for developing biomarkers of lung cancer risk, early detection and diagnosis: When is a biomarker ready for clinical use? These projects were well received but did not quite meet the level for funding. They will be reconsidered for funding by the committee in 2015.

We would also welcome other proposals to be developed as workshops, statements or guidelines. Send your suggestions to James Jett at: jetti@njhealth.org

At the planning committee meeting in May of 2015, Dr. Peter Mazzone will take over as the new chair of this committee.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Douglas A. Arenberg, MD , Chair, and Daniel H. Sterman, MD , Chair-Elect

The Thoracic Oncology Assembly's Programming Committee members worked extremely hard to make this year's meeting, our first as an Assembly, one we can all be proud of. We have a breadth and depth of programming relevant to individuals working in any area relevant to thoracic oncology, from basic molecular pathogenesis, clinical, translational and health services related studies to interesting case report sessions. We have maintained strong collaborations with our previous parent assemblies from when we were just a Section. Our new status as an Assembly has fostered collaboration with new assemblies as well. The result is a great program for this year's meeting as described below. Dan Sterman (Chair elect) and Doug Arenberg (Outgoing chair) would like to thank all the members of the current thoracic oncology assembly programming committee (SEE BELOW) for the hard work on this year's program, and encourage all interested members to begin thinking about programming they would like to see for 2016.

Dr. Chunxue Bai	Dr. Venkateshwar Keshamouni
Dr. Alex Balekian	Dr. Matthew Kinsey
Dr. Igor Barjaktarevic	Dr. Seyed Moghaddam
Dr. Tomoko Betsuyaku	Dr. Patrick Nana-Sinkam
Dr. Courtney Broaddus	Dr. David Ost
Dr. Mark M. Fuster	Dr. Christopher Slatore
Dr. McGarry Houghton	Dr. Simon Spivack
Dr. Hasmeena Kathuria	Dr. Lynn Tanoue
Dr. Anil Vachani	Dr. Yohannes Tesfaigzi

Don't forget to submit your symposia for 2016. Call for input will open this May. The Deadline will be June 30th.

ATS 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON THORACIC ONCOLOGY

Session	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Saturday, May 16, 2015			
PG28	LUNG CANCER: STATE OF THE ART IN 2015	8:00 AM	4:15 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B2	CONTROVERSIES IN LUNG CANCER SCREENING: PRO/CON DEBATE	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D6	INFLAMMATORY SIGNALING PATHWAYS LINKING COPD AND LUNG CANCER: NEW PEAKS ON THE ROCKY CLIMB TO A CURE	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Workshop Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
W2	SPECIMEN ACQUISITION ASCERTAINMENT OF MUTATIONAL MARKERS IN NON SMALL CELL	11:45 AM	1:15 PM
Sunrise Seminars			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
SS118	INCORPORATING MOLECULAR ANALYSES OF BIOLOGIC SPECIMENS INTO STAGING AND TREATMENT DECISIONS FOR PATIENTS WITH NON	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
SS218	HOW TO ACHIEVE HIGH QUALITY NODULE FOLLOW-UP IN LUNG CANCER SCREENING PRO-	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet The Professor Seminars			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
MP415	A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO STAGING OF NON SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
MP515	ANATOMY OF ATS: WHAT HAPPENS TO MY ABSTRACT AFTER SUBMISSION?	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
Mini-Symposium			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A30	BIG DATA: HARVESTING FRUITS FROM COPD AND LUNG CANCER	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B99	HIJACKING THE HOST: THE MICROENVIRONMENT IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF CANCER	2:15 PM	4:15 PM

Session	Session Title	Session Time	
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C99	GENOMICS AND CANCER: HAS IT BORNE SCIENTIFIC AND CLINICAL FRUIT?	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D100	LUNG CANCER SCREENING: LESSONS LEARNED AND YET TO BE LEARNED	1:30 PM	3:30 PM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 17, 2015			
A110	THORACIC CANCERS: PATHOGENESIS AND NOV-	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C110	MULTIDISCIPLINARY DIAGNOSIS, STAGING, AND TREATMENT OF THORACIC CANCERS	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Monday, May 18, 2015			
B61	MANAGING LUNG CANCER SCREENING AND ITS DOWNSTREAM FINDINGS	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
B62	EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DISPARITIES IN THORACIC	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
B63	CASE REPORTS: RARE THORACIC TUMORS	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday, May 19, 2015			
C71	THORACIC CANCER: PATHOGENESIS, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
C72	PREDICTIVE AND PROGNOSTIC MARKERS IN THORACIC ONCOLOGY	9:30 AM	4:15 PM
Wednesday, May 20, 2015			
D46	CASE REPORTS: TRACHEAL TUMORS AND OTHER	9:30 AM	3:30 PM
D47	CASE REPORTS: RARE MANIFESTATIONS OF	9:30 AM	3:30 PM

WEB DIRECTOR UPDATE

Christopher G. Slatore, MD , Web Directors

It's been a busy year for the TOA website!

We started using Twitter and Facebook to keep our members up to date on important TOA developments and interesting studies that are relevant to our members. While we don't yet have the same number of followers as @katyperry (60-some odd million at last count), we're getting close!

We also continued our nascent journal club series, "The Scope". We're proud to have created 10 entries to date with several more under development. These documents are a great way to keep up with new developments in our field and learn what other experts think of the research. Also, we greatly appreciate volunteers to create a new journal club piece. It is a great way for early career professionals to get more involved in the ATS.

We're very excited about our podcast on implementing lung cancer screening, featuring experts in the this area, Drs. Peter Mazzone and Renda Wiener. It supported the publication of a joint ACCP-ATS statement on providing high quality lung cancer screening. This podcast is part of a larger ATS commitment to providing our members with novel ways to access information. Our piece was just the second one that the ATS has developed and at last count, it had more than 500 hits!

Finally, we've partnered with the Patient and Family Education Committee to create a decision aid to support lung cancer screening efforts. The goal of this aid will be to improve our patients' understanding about the risks and benefits of screening and improve the quality of their decision. It is also required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to use a decision aid in order to be reimbursed for screening. Look for this aid to be available in time for the International Conference in May. Follow us on Twitter to know exactly when it is available.

We're always excited to receive feedback about the website and your suggestions for how to improve it. Send all your advice to toa@thoracic.org.

Follow us on:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/ATS-Assembly-on-Thoracic-Oncology/

Twitter: twitter.com/atstoa

Meet Your Mentor HERE!



Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? Look no further! This year at the 2015 ATS International Conference in Denver, the Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentees to meet.

The Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot will be located in the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in room Plaza Court 5 (Concourse Level). The room will be available:

Friday May 15th – Tuesday May 19th, 2015 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday May 20th from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Light snacks and beverages will be offered throughout the day. Also in the room there will be laptops and printers available for use. You can also pick up your Assembly Mentoring Program ribbon and pin!

We hope you can join us at the Assembly Mentoring Programs' Meeting Spot!

Other opportunities to meet:

- 1) New Member Meet and Greet – this occurs 30 minutes prior each Assembly Membership Meeting
- 2) Early Career Professionals' Corner
Science and Innovation Center (Denver Convention Center)
Tuesday, May 19th, 2015
7:00– 8:00 a.m.
Light breakfast will be served

For more information on the Mentorship Programs, contact Breana Portelli at bportelli@thoracic.org.

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
Thoracic Oncology
Membership Meeting*

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

Hyatt Regency Denver at CCC

*Capitol Ballroom 5-6
4th Floor*

*Assembly on
Thoracic Oncology
Reception*

*Monday, May 18th
7:00pm-10:00pm*

Hyatt Regency Denver at CCC

*Capitol Ballroom 7
Fourth Floor*

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.



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.

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:

@ATS_All @PR_Assembly
@ATSSRN @ATS_PC
@ATS_MTPI @ATS Nursing
@atstoa @ATS_RCMB
@ATS_RSF



Also look for the main ATS social media accounts:

Twitter: @atscommunity

Facebook: American Thoracic Society

Instagram: atscommunity

LinkedIn: American Thoracic Society



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 FY2016. 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 Dr. Peter Mazzone at mazonp@ccf.org.

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

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