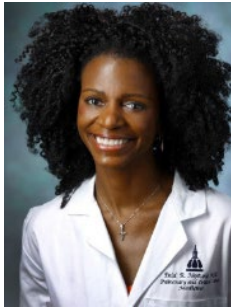


Assembly on Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology (RCMB) Newsletter



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Message from the Assembly Chair

Dear Members and Friends,

Our American Thoracic Society International Conference membership meeting on May 19, 2023, in Washington, D.C. is quickly approaching. As we transition out of the constraints of COVID, we will be able to gather and engage in the stimulating conversations, peruse the intriguing posters and absorb the elevated science delivered in our symposia. I look forward to seeing you in person as we celebrate our advances in research, education and clinical practice. As the signature discovery science assembly, we will maintain our focus on high-impact translational science and innovation. We also welcome our role in the development of the next generation of lung biologists with paths for leadership and greater involvement in the widespread charge of our Assembly.

In this newsletter, you will find updates on the progress of all our committees and working groups. As you will see, we have been able to continue content throughout the year with the help of our Web Committee and other groups. We have an exciting restructured Science and Innovation Center that provides content for our full Society. We pioneered a webinar series to provide requisite skills for K grant applicants in the basic science. We also sponsored a series of podcasts, webinars and journal clubs that not only served as a forum for cutting edge research, disease dissection and new approaches but also anchored partnerships with other assemblies furthering aligned interests. The inclusion of our MD, PhD, basic and translational scientists from around the world has been key and is the secret sauce to advance research in lung disease.

I encourage you to join us for our membership meeting where we will welcome our new members of leadership, celebrate our accomplishments and announce our awardees. We will also discuss the challenges going forward for basic researchers in lung disease and craft strategies to address these in our Assembly. All are welcome, and please bring along your junior colleagues. Finally, I personally look forward to having a partner as Chair-Elect for our Assembly who will ensure the continued elevation of great science that our group embodies.

Please continue to share your ideas; reach out to our committees, our assembly leadership and of course myself at any time (eneptune@jhmi.edu).

Thank you for the incredible joy of serving as your assembly leader.

Assembly Chair
Enid Neptune, MD

Assembly on RCMB Membership Meeting

Monday, May 22, 2022
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Building Marriott Marquis DC
Room: Liberty Ballroom MNOP
Floor: M4

American Thoracic Society
ASSEMBLIES



Want to know how the ATS Assemblies and Committees really work?
 Would you like to get more involved?

This is your chance! You can now register here to become more involved in the ATS Assemblies, ATS Committees or both. There are many ways to grow within ATS and the Assemblies and Committees are a great starting point.

www.thoracic.org/go/get-involved



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Rachel Zemans, MD (Chair)

ATS 2023 International Conference
Assembly on Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB) Sessions

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Start Time	Session End Time
PG12	MOLECULAR TARGETING IN COPD - FROM BASICS THROUGH MULTI-OMIC INTEGRATION TO NOVEL THERAPEUTICS	Postgraduate Course	5/20/2023	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
A6	BEYOND TRANSCRIPTOMICS: THE NEXT FRONTIER IN COPD/EMPHYSEMA	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A16	INTERROGATING GENOMIC, TRANSCRIPTIONAL, AND EPIGENETIC MECHANISMS IN LUNG FIBROSIS	Mini Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A29	EPITHELIUM: FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A65	THE ALVEOLAR NICHE IN THE SPOTLIGHT OF LUNG FIBROSIS	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A66	DISSECTING THE MATRIX AND MESENCHYMAL CELLS IN FIBROSIS	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A67	BIOMARKERS, MEDIATORS, AND TRANSLATIONAL MODELS FOR ILD	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A68	MITOCHONDRIAL AND METABOLOMIC ALTERATIONS IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF ILDs	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A107	AGING AND LUNG DISEASES COMING TO AGE	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B9	SEX-SPECIFIC MECHANISMS OF LUNG DISEASE PATHOGENESIS THROUGH THE LENS OF SINGLE CELL RNA SEQUENCING	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B19	PLAYING THE TIKI-TAKA: THE CELL CROSSTALK GAME IN LUNG REPAIR	Mini Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM

B65	IMMUNE AND ENDOTHELIAL CELLS HIT BACK AT LUNG REPAIR	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B66	BUG'S LIFE: FROM PNEUMONIA TO SEPSIS	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B67	ALL THE LUNG'S A STAGE: IMMUNE CELLS ARE THE PLAYERS	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B91	LUNG AGING: WHY YOUR FEV1 IS FALLING AND PNEUMONIA IS YOUR FINAL FRIEND	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B107	COPD: FROM OMICS TO TREATMENT	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B108	IMMUNE CELLS TO THE RESCUE IN LUNG INJURY	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C19	EMERGING MECHANISMS IN COPD AND ASTHMA	Mini Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
C28	FROM OMICS TO EX VIVO MODELS: A ROAD MAP FOR NOVEL THERAPIES IN LUNG FIBROSIS	Poster Discussion Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
C68	TOPICS IN AIRWAY AND ALVEOLAR EPITHELIAL CELL BIOLOGY	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C69	PRECLINICAL COPD MODELS: IN VITRO, EX VIVO, IN VIVO	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C70	COPD (AND LUNG CANCER) CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C71	NEW INSIGHTS IN BRONCHOPULMONARY DYSPLASIA	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
MTE33	LUNG MOLECULAR ATLAS PROGRAM HUMAN TISSUE CORE (LUNGMAP HTC)	Meet the Expert	5/23/2023	10:15 AM	11:15 AM
MTE43	ORGANS-ON-CHIPS FOR THE LUNGS: PAST, CURRENT AND FUTURE	Meet the Expert	5/23/2023	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
C86	BEYOND THE TRANSCRIPTOME: HOW THE MULTI-"OMIC" UNIVERSE PROVIDES NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO IPF/ILD PATHOGENESIS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C108	IMMUNITY AND INFLAMMATION IN COPD: NOVEL FINDINGS	Poster Discussion Session	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C97	EPITHELIAL RESPONSES TO LUNG INJURY	Mini Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
D19	NEW PERSPECTIVES ON TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES FOR LUNG FIBROSIS	Mini Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
D88	BEYOND BIOENERGETICS: CELLULAR METABOLISM IN LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D108	CELLS, SIGNALING, AND MEDIATORS IN LUNG REMODELING AND FIBROSIS	Poster Discussion Session	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
D96	NOVEL PATHWAYS IN INFLAMMATORY LUNG INJURY	Mini Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
B91	LUNG AGING: WHY YOUR FEV1 IS FALLING AND PNEUMONIA IS YOUR FINAL FRIEND	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C12	IMMUNOLOGY IN CONTEXT: MECHANISMS AND BIOMARKERS THAT DETERMINE VIRAL DISEASE SEVERITY	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C90	DOUBLE TROUBLE: AIR POLLUTANTS AND TUBERCULOSIS	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM

**ATS 2023 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Start Time	End Time
A11	CARING FOR HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED PATIENTS: ETHICAL, LEGAL AND ADVOCACY PRIMER FOR PROVIDERS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A10	ASTHMA HOT TOPIC 2023: WHICH "ICS PLUS BRONCHODILATOR" RELIEVER FOR WHICH PATIENT?	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A9	USING TECHNOLOGY TO SAVE THE BRAIN AND BODY: NOVEL INTERVENTIONS TO MANAGE PAIN, ANXIETY, DELIRIUM, AND PROMOTE MOBILITY IN ICU	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A8	BRONCHOPULMONARY DYSPLASIA ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A7	THE NEW ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR PULMONARY REHABILITATION	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A6	BEYOND TRANSCRIPTOMICS: THE NEXT FRONTIER IN COPD/EMPHYSEMA	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A89	CAN ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS CHANGE THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH?	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A87	NEW TREATMENT APPROACHES FOR BRONCHIECTASIS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A88	NEURO-IMMUNE INTERACTIONS IN LUNG DEVELOPMENT AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B12	ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES: CLINICAL PRACTICE ON THE CUTTING EDGE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B7	SICKLE CELL LUNG DISEASE ACROSS THE LIFESPAN: WHERE ARE WE NOW?	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B8	BEYOND THE LUNGS: EXTRAPULMONARY MANIFESTATIONS OF PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B11	GLOBAL INSIGHTS ON THE LONG-TERM SEQUELAE OF INFECTIONS: BEYOND COVID	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B9	SEX-SPECIFIC MECHANISMS OF LUNG DISEASE PATHOGENESIS THROUGH THE LENS OF SINGLE CELL RNA SEQUENCING	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B6	NON-PAP ALTERNATIVES FOR OSA: FROM ACCEPTED TO REVOLUTIONARY	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B10	REIGNITING THE CANCER MOONSHOT: ATS = MISSION CONTROL FOR LUNG CANCER	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B92	INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PERSONALIZED SEVERE ASTHMA MANAGEMENT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM

B90	IMPROVING THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF PEDIATRIC ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B88	LEAPS AND BOUNDS: REDUCING HEALTHCARE'S CARBON FOOTPRINT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B87	CONTROVERSIES IN PEDIATRIC OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA: A PRO/CON DEBATE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B89	TRANSCRIPTOMIC PROFILING OF PULMONARY VASCULAR LESIONS UNRAVEL MECHANISMS OF PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B86	PRECISION MEDICINE IN PNEUMONIA	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C11	ADVANCING CLINICAL ISSUES TO ATS AND CAPITOL HILL: THE OXYGEN THERAPY EXEMPLAR	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C6	DISPARITIES IN RESPIRATORY GENOMICS RESEARCH: STRATEGIES TO ADVANCE SCIENCE AND CLINICAL CARE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C5	DISMANTLING STRUCTURAL RACISM FROM RISK AND DISEASE PREDICTION IN PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C8	NEW CONCEPTS AND UPDATE IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF NTM AND TB INFECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C9	REHABILITATION FOR THE POST-COVID POPULATION	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C10	OPIOID USE DISORDER, SLEEP DEFICIENCY, AND VENTILATORY CONTROL: BIDIRECTIONAL MECHANISMS AND THERAPEUTIC TARGETS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C7	CANCER IN THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER SMOKED: NEW INSIGHTS FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C89	ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY: REDUCING THE IMPACT OF SDOH THROUGH RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C85	A PATH TOWARDS A MORE DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C88	BIOLOGICAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C87	A MEASURED RESPONSE: ASSESSING TREATMENT OUTCOMES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C86	BEYOND THE TRANSCRIPTOME: HOW THE MULTI-"OMIC" UNIVERSE PROVIDES NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO IPF/ILD PATHOGENESIS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
D5	REVISITING BEST BUY INTERVENTIONS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASES IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM

D6	OBESITY-RELATED ASTHMA: MECHANISTIC STUDIES BEGIN TO INFORM THERAPEUTICS	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D10	AN AGE-FRIENDLY FRAMEWORK FOR CARING FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D7	WANT TO BE AN ADVOCATE FOR LUNG HEALTH? LEARN FROM SUCCESS!	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D8	UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS: OMICS AND DEEP PHENOTYPING IN PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D9	IT'S ABOUT TIME! THE CIRCADIAN CLOCK IN LUNG DISEASE, FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D11	THE EVOLVING ROLE FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY IN LUNG CANCER	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D86	HUMANS, ANIMALS, THE ENVIRONMENT: WHY IS THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH NEEDED FOR EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES?	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D87	THE UN HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TB 2023: A CHANCE TO BEAT THIS PARTICULAR PANDEMIC	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D88	BEYOND BIOENERGETICS: CELLULAR METABOLISM IN LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D89	OSA-ASSOCIATED INFLAMMATION AND COMORBIDITIES: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Elizabeth F. Redente, PhD & Stefanie Krick, MD, PhD (Co-Chairs)

The RCMB Planning Committee has two primary responsibilities. First, we solicit and assist in the development and review of applications to ATS for the support of **Assembly/Committee Projects**. These projects can be submitted by any Assembly Member, and if approved the funds can be used to support activities that enhance the communication and collaborative efforts of members with common interests. Frequently, these projects involve the development of workshops around a specific research focus that reflects the interests of our Assembly. We also encourage collaborative projects between Assemblies that will address the needs and interests of the greater respiratory and scientific community. These workshops should have defined goals, a feasible timeline and include plans for the rapid development of a report or document for publication. Proposals are first reviewed by the Planning Committee which provides feedback and then are submitted for evaluation by the ATS Program Review Committee. This year, RCMB members Dr. Melanie Koenigshoff and Dr. Mareike Lehmann were successful in receiving funding for their project **“Precision cut lung slices (PCLS): emerging tools for preclinical and translational lung research”**. Additionally, Dr. Louise Hecker and Dr. Milica Vukmirovic were successful in renewing their proposal **“Assessing challenges and opportunities for biomarker, device, and pre-clinical drug development/commercialization in the pulmonary arena”**. We look forward to seeing the publication from their workshop in print this year!

We encourage all of our members to start networking and brainstorming new proposal ideas and look forward to reviewing applications in the fall. Please reach out if you have ideas or if you have questions about the process (Redentee@njhealth.org or skrick@uabmc.edu). This is a fantastic opportunity to generate consensus on high impact, novel and innovative topics!

Second, the RCMB Planning Committee also has the privilege of reviewing applications for the three RCMB Assembly Awards. The **Carol Basbaum Award** to recognize outstanding scientific achievement and leadership potential in a

junior investigator, the **Andy Tager Award** for Excellence in Mentoring, and the **Award for Research Excellence and Service by an International Member.**” We look forward to celebrating our outstanding RCMB member awardees at the RCMB Assembly Business Meeting!

These awards are an amazing opportunity to recognize the excellent and diverse contributions of the RCMB membership. Though nominations for 2024 are still a ways off – please start thinking of who you would like to nominate today!

We also participate in the Assembly **Apprenticeship Program** which encourages highly motivated junior members to join RCMB, participate and take on leadership roles. This year we were excited to welcome Dr. Marlene Cano to the Planning Committee. Please reach out to the ECP working group with questions about this fantastic program (ciara.shaver@vumc.org). We hope you consider joining us next year.

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2024!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept **NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2024**. 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 or nominating a colleague for a RCMB Award. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your **Assembly Planning Committee Chair Elizabeth Redente, PhD at redentee@njhealth.org or Committee Co-Chair Stefanie Krick, MD PhD at skrick@uabmc.edu**

For questions regarding submissions please contact
Miriam Rodriguez
Tel: (212) 315-8639 or email: Mrodriguez@thoracic.org.

WEB COMMITTEE

Mark E. Snyder, MD (Web Director)

The goal of the RCMB website committee is to provide a virtual forum to facilitate scientific conversations and collaborations amongst RCMB members. In the contemporary era of a hybrid work environment, the Web Committee provides an increasingly important role in maintaining an active and collaborative community of scientists. We continue to promote the dissemination of science and actively work to bring together RCMB members from diverse locations and backgrounds.

This past year, Dr. Brian Southern stepped down as the Web Committee chair after serving the RCMB assembly for years, growing RCMB's web presence, and hosting a variety of exciting webinars and journal clubs. Dr. Mark Snyder, has agreed to take over as the interim Web Committee chair. More importantly, we are excited to welcome our upcoming apprentice, Dr. Erin Crossy from Boston University.

The Web Committee has hosted a number of exciting webinars this past year, including 1) a collaborative multi-Assembly webinar entitled, “*Integration of Multiomics, from Single Cells to Radiomics: Novel Tools to Dissect COPD*”, as well as, “*Epigenetics of the Aging Lung*” led by the RCMB interest group in lung aging, and 2) an outstanding virtual Grant Writing Workshop webinar series developed by the Early Career Professional Working Group.

As the scientific community prepares for increased in-person meetings, the Web Committee will continue to promote virtual inter-connectiveness, providing a resource to keep all scientists involved, especially those unable to join in-

person meetings. We have some exciting plans in the works for the next year, with a particular emphasis on promoting the visibility of trainees and junior faculty as well as collaborating with other assemblies for the expressed purpose of highlighting the positive impact of basic science on clinical care and inspiring the next generation of basic and translational scientists. This begins with the next iteration of the Grant Writing Workshop in March titled, “*Beyond the Aims: How to Rock the Entire Career Development (K) Grant*”.

Please visit the ATS website for a full access to all virtual journal clubs, webinars, and podcasts. ATS podcasts can also be found on iTunes.

The Web Committee has room to grow! We are looking for enthusiastic trainees and junior faculty to get more engaged in the ATS community. Please email me at snyderme2@upmc.edu if you are interested in getting involved!

Follow us on Twitter @ATS_RCMB



EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP (ECPWG)

Ciara Shaver, MD, PhD (Chair)

The mission of the *Early Career Professionals Working Group* (ECPWG) is to promote the involvement of early career professionals (ECPs) in the RCMB Assembly and the ATS. Our membership is a mix of postdoctoral research and clinical fellows, instructors, and assistant professors with MD, PhD, and MD/PhD backgrounds from three continents. We're proud to report the work our ECPWG has done in 2022-2023, and we extend our gratitude to our ATS liaison, **Nicole Feijoo**, for another year of tireless help and support.

This year, our new initiative, led by **Rachel Knipe, MD**, was to create the **Grant Writer's Toolkit: Focus on Career Development Awards** workshop. This series of interactive sessions was designed to provide a venue for physicians and scientists early in their careers (e.g., fellows and junior faculty) to learn from those who have successfully navigated the journey to writing a competitive career development award. The four-course series features 4 of our amazing faculty mentors: **Karen Ridge, PhD, Beth Moore, PhD, Julie Bastarache, MD, and Bill Parks, PhD** as they provide advice on 1) Specific Aims, 2) team development and mentoring plans, 3) nuts and bolts of budgets and rigor, and 4) study section processes. The first two sessions had more than 100 registrants. We are so excited to develop this resource for our RCMB colleagues and very much appreciate the support from ATS and RCMB for this initiative. Stay tuned for our next Toolkit in the fall geared towards R01 level grants, multi-center proposals, and non-NIH funding options.

Our **Seminar Committee**, led by **Joe Bednash, MD**, continued our successful “On Air” Live Virtual Seminar Series. The goals of the seminar series are to connect ECPs with established investigators and other ECPs to provide a forum for discussion of topics relevant to ECPs, and to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion through thoughtful choices of speakers, engagement, and community. Our first session this year was **A Journey to Success with Dr. Jaime Hook and Dr. Joshua Englert**. More than 75 attendees learned from Jaime and Josh about their experiences moving from fellowship into faculty roles with independent laboratories and highlighted two of our former ECP working group

leaders. This spring, we are looking forward to a lively discussion during A Journey to Success with another ATS leader!

Our **Communications Committee**, run by **Chi Hung, MD**, has continued to expand our website (<https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/rcmb/working-groups/early-career-professional/>) and social media presence to make our initiatives more accessible. On Twitter, we posted to the ATS RCMB account (@ATS_RCMB) on a weekly basis to share ECP-relevant content including advertisements of ATS initiatives and announcements of ECP accomplishments (#thefutureisbright). We are working on an ECP Newsletter to continue to provide guidance, tips, and tricks for issues relevant to ECPs.

The **RCMB Mentoring Program**, organized by **Jeremy Katzen, MD**, has run successfully now for many years. The Program matches mentors (mid-career and senior RCMB members) with mentees (trainees, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty) to provide opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences that support scientific collaboration, ECP career development, and networking. Historically, mentors have helped mentees navigate opportunities at the ATS Conference. In 2022, we had 28 mentee-mentor pairs! This year, we are planning to grow the RCMB Mentoring Program and will be making the match pairs later this spring. Your participation as mentors and mentees is very valuable and we appreciate the effort it takes for both the mentors and mentees to get maximum benefit from this important program.

The **RCMB Apprenticeship Program** has continued to be successful and is a pathway for ECP involvement in RCMB and ATS leadership. This program selects ECP representatives to serve on the RCMB Program, Planning, and Web Committees. Under the mentorship of a committee member, apprentices get a “behind the scenes” look at the operations of the RCMB Assembly while developing skills for evaluating committee applications and developing committee projects. Our Apprenticeship Program is organized by **Elizabeth Middleton, MD**. We’re pleased to have had a number of highly competitive applications, and we plan to announce this year’s Apprentices at the RCMB Assembly Business Meeting.

As part of our mission to support ECP career development, we look forward to announcing this year’s two recipients of the **Recognition of Early Academic Achievement (REAAch) Award** at the RCMB Assembly Business Meeting. Our REAAch Award Program is run by **Kosuke Kato, MD**. This award is given to Early Stage Investigators at the Instructor or Assistant Professor level who demonstrate a sustained commitment to developing a productive academic career, with focus on research areas addressed by the RCMB Assembly. We are again pleased to have received a number of highly competitive nominations, reflecting the high caliber of ECP investigators in our RCMB Assembly. In addition, this year, we surveyed our prior REAAch Award winners. The first 10 recipients have received more than \$16 million in grants and published more than 75 manuscripts since their awards!!

Our **Conference Committee**, run by **Scott Denstaedt, MD**, strives to ensure that ECPs make the most of their experience at the ATS International Conference. This year, the committee plans to continue our tradition of providing ECPs with our annual **RCMB Roadmap** that highlights conference programming and events of potential interest to RCMB ECPs. In addition, the committee is planning an ECP social event to build relationships between ECPs at different institutions.

Thanks for your interest in the RCMB ECPWG. We’re always looking to add qualified people to enrich our group, so please contact us if you’re interested in participating (ciara.shaver@vumc.org). We look forward to welcoming you to ATS 2023, and we hope to see you at the annual RCMB Membership Meeting!

Assembly Mentoring Programs’ Meeting Spot

Struggling to find a quiet location to meet with your mentor? The Assembly Mentoring Programs is offering a meeting spot exclusively for mentors and mentees to meet.

Renaissance Hotel

(Lobby level: Red Bud Room)

Sunday, May 21 – Monday, May 22 from 7 am to 7 pm

Please note, this space is exclusively for Mentoring Program participants*

ATS Contact- Nicole Feijoo at NFeijoo@thoracic.org

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Patricia Sime, MD, (Chair)

The role of the RCMB Nomination Committee is to identify RCMB members who are interested in leadership positions in our Assembly. Candidates are identified and selected based on their expertise, interest, and experience in the assembly. We encourage all members to become actively involved and to reach out to the nomination committee to offer their service or identify a colleague for a leadership role. It is important we have broad and inclusive representation. With the assistance of this year's nominating committee we were excited to have several amazing colleagues agree to stand for election for the positions of Assembly Chair-elect, Program Chair-elect and Nominating Committee member. Every member of our assembly is encouraged to vote. We will announce the results of the election and our new RCMB leaders at the Assembly Membership Meeting in DC.

I am grateful to Suzanne Cloonan, PhD and Corrine Kliment, MD PhD for serving on this committee and thank them for their efforts and skills in identifying truly outstanding candidates for our RCMB leadership positions. Please reach out with any question you might have about the committee work and future leadership positions within RCMB (patricia.sime@vcuhealth.org). This is your assembly, and we value your input as we identify our leaders of tomorrow and further develop our assembly to meet the needs of our members and the broader ATS community.

Thank you.

Best Wishes.

Patricia Sime (Chair, Nominating Committee)

LUNG AGING RESEARCH WORKING GROUP

Irfan Rahman, PhD, ATSF, Ben Singer, MD, PhD, Beata Kosmider, MS, PhD, Mareike Lehmann, PhD (Co-Chairs)

The Lung Aging Research Working Group continued its core activities throughout 2022-2023 despite the challenges of the pandemic. Through interactive and well-attended webinars, email blasts to our membership, and scientific discussions at the ATS International Conference, we increased awareness and disseminated knowledge about the basic biology of lung aging and promoted an understanding of the cellular and molecular mechanisms of aging and age-related lung diseases. We are looking forward to seeing you all in Washington, DC!

View the Lung Aging Research web page [here](#).

We continued our activities by increasing our membership (now over 200!) and sending regular email alerts regarding seminars/webinars and grant opportunities, including SenNet (human and mouse networks) from the NIH Common Fund. We also provided networking experiences and opportunities for mentoring in aging biology through our members.

We presented two webinars (see below), both of which were very well attended and generated interest across different disciplines. Through these activities, our group brought together lung researchers who are interested in understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms of aging and age-related lung diseases, creating a forum for discussion on hallmarks of lung aging and associated diseases.

Webinar #1 occurred on June 16, 2022 and focused on the NIH Common Fund's SenNet. Speakers included Ananda Roy (Program Leader in the NIH Common Fund Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives) and Nick Goplen, who spoke on age-related alterations in lung immunity. Our series continued on January 13, 2023 with a webinar focused on basic mechanisms of aging, including epigenetic alterations (Peter Adams), mitochondrial metabolism (Greg McElroy), and intercellular communication (Joselyn Rojas Quintero). Both webinars had robust panel discussions with the speakers and attendees that spurred new scientific angles and points of inter-institutional synergy. Going forward, we will continue to advance our group and bring exciting ideas (timely miniworkshops and minisymposia). We look forward to meeting you all in Washington DC, and perhaps some of you will be able to join us in Cellular Senescence meeting <https://www.cellsenescence.info/> in October 2023.

We will again have our annual meeting as a virtual event this year – please stay tuned for details!

If you are interested in learning more about our goals and activities, please feel free to contact us:

irfan_rahman@urmc.rochester.edu

benjamin-singer@northwestern.edu

beata.kosmider@temple.edu

mareike.lehmann@helmholtz-muenchen.de

THE PHD, BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENTIST WORKING GROUP

James Londino, PhD & Samantha Yeligar, PhD, MS (Co-Chairs)

The Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group (PBTS WG) has been in existence since January 1, 2019 and is charged with enhancing the value of ATS membership for basic and translational scientists, specifically Ph.D. scientists. The PBTS WG consists of thirty-six members that are drawn from each of the fourteen ATS Assemblies. The WG meets monthly *via* Zoom to discuss issues of importance to (1) non-clinical ATS members (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) and (2) research-intensive physician-scientists. The current co-chairs of the PBTS WG are Drs. Samantha Yeligar (Assembly on PI-TB) and James Londino (Assembly on RCMB).

During the past year, the PBTS WG has been extraordinarily active in developing programs for its constituency as well devising strategies to recruit Ph.D. scientists to the Society. We have highlighted some of the WG's efforts in the subsequent text.

- 1. Research Integrity.** There is a need for formally recognized research integrity training for basic science and translational researchers as scientific organizations increasingly require training be specified in grant applications and for fellowships. The Research Integrity subcommittee, headed by Thomas Mariani, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB), was formed with the goal of promoting ATS as a recognized leader among professional societies in promoting the basic principles of Research Integrity through education, information dissemination and collaboration and to make integrity a part of all ATS members' research practices, procedures, and processes.
- 2. Seminar.** With the goal of highlighting Ph.D. scientists and innovative methods/techniques in a seminar format, the Seminar subcommittee was formed under the co-leadership of Nicholas Jendzjowsky, Ph.D. (Assembly on All) and Lindsay McDonald, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The planned structure for 2-3 seminars per year with the co-sponsorship of assemblies within the ATS is a discussion of the research, preferably by a Ph.D. early career scientist, followed by discussion. We are also reaching out to stake holders in funding agencies to discuss how research techniques fit into their funding portfolio.
- 3. Survey.** To understand the rationale as to why Ph.D. scientists attend the ATS International Conference but are not ATS members, Janette Burgess, Ph.D., ATSF (Assembly on RSF) has assembled a subcommittee of PBTS WG members to design a survey to answer this question. This survey will be distributed to all 2023 ATS International Conference attendees who hold a Ph.D. or equivalent and spend 50% or more of their time in research yet are not currently ATS members. The PBTS WG hopes to use the survey data to understand how the ATS and PBTS WG can be best equipped to address their needs.
- 4. Equity and ATS Opportunities.** Under the co-leadership of Carolyn Cannon, M.D., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB) and Melissa Valerio-Shewmaker, M.D., M.P.H. (Assembly on BSHSR), among several focuses, the Equity and ATS Opportunities subcommittee is working on emphasizing a parity in the fee structure for Ph.D. scientists at the conference. This subcommittee has also worked with the ATS Health Equity and Diversity Committee to help promote diversity.
- 5. Assembly Project.** On behalf of the PBTS WG, Bethany Moore, Ph.D., ATSF spearheaded the development and submission of an Assembly Project through the Assembly on RSF entitled "Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities, and ATS Membership". This project addressed the perception that many Ph.D. scientists contribute to the mission of subspecialty clinical divisions within Departments of Medicine and of Pediatrics, yet barriers exist for them to attain tenure-track faculty status. By convening a virtual meeting in 2022 of Medical School Deans, Department Chairs, Division Directors, NIH Administrators, and Ph.D. scientists with a vested interest in adult and pediatric pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine, the organizers of this project hoped to demonstrate to Division

Directors the importance of including Ph.D. scientists in their hiring plan and providing the necessary support for their ultimate success. A manuscript, currently in revision, detailing the contributions of Ph.D. scientists in clinical departments came out of this project's successful completion.

6. Brochure. Along with graphic designers at the ATS, a PBTS WG subcommittee headed by James Londino, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) has put together a two-sided brochure highlighting the advantages of ATS membership for Ph.D. scientists. This brochure specifically targets Ph.D. scientists who attend the ATS International Conference but who are not currently ATS members. A hard copy of this brochure will be available at various locales at the 2023 ATS International Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, an electronic version will be available online.

7. PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Collaboration Events. On February 8, 2022, PBTS WG members, Natalie Bauer, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) and Samantha Yeligar, M.S., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB), co-chaired a networking event along with the SIC entitled "Successful Collaborations". At this event, two U.S.- and two European (U.K.)-based M.D. and Ph.D. scientific collaborators discussed how their professional scientific relationship evolved and became successful. Afterwards, participants went into separate breakout rooms for an in-depth discussion on the formation and endurance of these collaborations with either the U.S.- or European (U.K.)-based collaborators. The PBTS WG/SIC hope to provide more Ph.D.-centric events in the upcoming year. In addition, the PBTS WG co-hosted the Science and Innovation Center Ph.D. Reception at the 2022 ATS International Conference in San Francisco, CA.

8. Awards. A PBTS WG Awards subcommittee was established and is co-chaired by Karen Ridge, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) and Anne-Karina Perl, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The purpose of this subcommittee is to identify and nominate worthy basic and translational scientists (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) for the annual Assembly- and ATS-wide awards.

Finally, if you would like to become involved with the PBTS WG or have any issues you feel that WG could effectively address, please feel free to e-mail either Samantha Yeligar (samantha.yeligar@emory.edu) or James Londino (james.londino@osumc.edu).

Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers

Sunday, May 21 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. The reception will be held in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center (Reception area in Hall D, Level 2). There will be food provided and activities during the event will include an opportunity to get to meet and network with other scientists, to engage with leaders from the ATS and assemblies and to provide feedback regarding activities or programs that ATS could offer to benefit the basic and translational science members, especially those who are not also clinicians.

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

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURIAL WORKING GROUP

Milica Vulmirovic, PhD & Louise Hecker, PhD (Co-Chairs)

Innovation and Entrepreneurial Working Group gathers world-renowned academic and industry experts who support entrepreneurial activities in the respiratory field and within the RCMB Assembly. The goals of our group are to organize educational sessions in entrepreneurship and bridge learning gaps for the development of new drugs and devices coming from academic research in lung diseases. In 2022, our group finalized the ATS workshop report about the assessment of opportunities and challenges for the early-stage technology development within academic settings. The preliminary results of the report, "**Assessing challenges and opportunities for biomarker, device, and pre-clinical drug development/commercialization in the pulmonary arena**" will be presented at the ATS 2023!

We thank ATS for this opportunity and look forward to sharing our findings with the broader ATS community. Stay tuned!

SCIENCE & INNOVATION CENTER (SIC)

Francesca Polverino, MD, PhD & Clemente J. Britto-Leon, MD, ATSF (Co-Chairs)

The Science and Innovation Center remains the central venue for basic and translational scientists to network and learn about emerging technologies. The SIC is now part of a larger organization called The Networking Super Center and contains The Learning Studio, a shared presentation space for the SIC with the Clinicians Center and the Center for Career Development. There will be plenty of space and time for all the programming to be available. Please see the below schedule which contains the schedule of the talks for the SIC, the CCD, and the Clinicians Center.

Learning Studio Schedule: https://conference.thoracic.org/attendees/networking-super-center				
DATES/TIMES	SUNDAY, MAY 21	MONDAY, MAY 22	TUESDAY, MAY 23	WEDNESDAY, MAY 23
7:00 - 8:00 am	CCD: Breathe and sleep easy: pediatric pulmonology and sleep fellowships in the united states	CC: Building and maintaining antiracist, inclusive environments in clinical and teaching settings	PFT	SIC: Linking lung development and carcinogenesis: From pathways to LungMAP and the Precancer Atlas
8:00 - 9:00 am	CCD: Learning to lead: how to develop leadership skills as a trainee or early career physician	SIC: Novel imaging techniques for assessment of ILD	CC: Immunity debt and severe viral respiratory illnesses- peds topic	SIC: Novel computational approaches to analyze your data
9:00 am - 10:00 am	CC: Sleep, supplements & the circadian rhythm	CMSS/CDC vaccine initiative	CC: Pulmonary physiology as a signal to patient outcomes in ARDS	CC: Evaluating new technologies for bronchoscopy: considerations, costs, and the evolving paradigms
10:00- 11:00 am	SIC: Not all that it seems: the heterogeneity of the cellular immune response across a spectrum of acute exposures and infection.	CCD: Coaching for a growth mindset: strategies to promote professional development	CCD: How to get funded - understanding the nuts and bolts of an NIH study section	CCD: A practical partnership in prevention: children's environmental health & pediatric pulmonologists
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	SIC: Which microbes matter? Identifying pathogens that worsen early-stage respiratory diseases		CCD: Mobilizing for local advocacy	
12:00 - 1:00 pm	CCD: Tools for Addressing Social Determinants of Health for the Front Line of Care	ajrcm, ajrcmb, annalsats, ats scholar combined journal session (11a.m- 1:00 p.m.) journal editors	CCD & SIC: Career in transition: academia to industry	SIC: Pneumonia sub-phenotypes: multiple different paths to susceptibility and severity
1:00-2:00 pm		SIC: Flow cytometric analysis of lung structural cells: technical challenges and strategies	CCD: Pediatric pulmonology- my first real job- what do I do?	CCD: Working in Government: Preparing for a Career as a Civil Servant
2:00 – 3:00 pm	SIC awards (1-3 p.m.)	SIC: Technical and biological innovations for unraveling lung macrophage heterogeneity	SIC: I am a mid-career investigator. And now what?	
3:00 – 4:00 pm	CCD: How to Manage Your Student Loans	CC: Health Advocacy Workshop	CCD: IMG Workshop	
4:00 – 5:00 pm	CC & CCD: Tales from the MID-Career with Marilyn Glassberg	CC & CCD: Tales from the MID-Career with Trish Kritek	CC & CCD: Tales from the MID-Career with Jesse Roman	The studio talks end at 2 p.m.
Networking Events Near the Learning Studio				
	3:00-5:00 pm PhD & Basic Science Reception	4:00-5:00 pm TEACH	4:00-5:00 pm IMG Networking	

- TEACH Reception will be hosted on Monday, May 22 from 4-5 p.m.
- IMG Reception will be hosted on Tuesday, May 23 from 3-5 p.m.

The Learning Studio is being shared with the Center for Career Development and the Clinicians Center.

BASIC SCIENCE CORE COMMITTEE

Ivana Yang, PhD & Karen Ridge, PhD

Karen Ridge and Ivana Yang have served as RCMB representatives on the Basic Science Core Committee this past year. Together with representatives from All and RSF, they organized a two-part symposium to fit the basic science core theme: MECHANISMS THAT INTEGRATE RESPONSES TO ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES. Part 1 of this symposium is led by All and RSF (A5: Quantification of environmental exposures using state-of-the-art methods), and part 2 (A85: Physiological and cellular impact of environmental exposures) is led by RCMB.

THE RECOGNITION OF EARLY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (REAACh) AWARD

The Recognition of Early Academic Achievement (REAACh) Award is given annually to 2 awardees by the Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology Assembly of the American Thoracic Society. This award recognizes early career scientists who have demonstrated success with great potential for having a high impact on the field. To report on the success of the program, REAACh recipients were surveyed to report success with grant funding, publications, and promotion. These responses were supplemented with internet queries.

Table 1 Demographics of REAACh awardees 2018-2022 (n=10)

Characteristics	n (%)
<u>Gender</u>	
Female	6 (60)
Male	4 (40)
<u>Race/ethnicity</u>	
White	5 (50)
Minority	5 (50)
<u>Degree</u>	
M.D.	4 (40)
Ph.D.	3 (30)
M.D., Ph.D.	3 (30)

Table 2 Number and types of federally and non-federally funded grants awarded to REAACh awardees as principal investigators 2018-2022*

Award type	Number of grants awarded
<u>NIH K series</u>	
K08	2
<u>NIH R series (or equivalent)</u>	
R01	4
U01	1
R41	1
P30	1
<u>Non-NIH Federal Grants</u>	
Department of Defense	1
National Science Foundation	1
<u>Non-Federal Grants</u>	
Institutional	6
Foundation	3
Industry	2
American Thoracic Society	1

*Number of grants represents 6 awardees that responded to the ATS RCMB ECPW survey conducted in 2022.

Table 3 Total dollar value of grants and primary manuscripts 2018-2022

Dollar value of grants*	\$22 (million)
Primary manuscripts**	88

*Combined dollar amount of all federally and non-federally-funded grants, **Excluding non-peer-reviewed manuscript, reviews, book chapter, and editorials.

"SOMEWHERE, SOMETHING INCREDIBLE IS WAITING TO BE KNOWN."
— **CARL SAGAN**

ATS GUIDELINE METHODOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM

Kevin Wilson

The ATS has a Guideline Methodology Training Program that provides hands-on training in guideline development. An informational program is being held on Monday, May 22nd from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Mint Room (meeting level 4) of the Marriott Marquis. Anyone who is interested in learning more about clinical practice guideline development and the ATS training program is welcome to attend. Light appetizers will be served. Please RSVP to kwilson@thoracic.org. Space is limited.

Additional information:

Clinical practice guideline development has changed dramatically over the past two decades. Formal standards must now be met as defined by the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Medicine), which include a specific approach to identifying evidence, summarizing evidence, formulating recommendations, and rating both the quality of evidence and the strength of the recommendations. The ATS and other guideline developers have learned that to successfully adhere to these standards, a guideline methodologist is necessary on each guideline committee. Guideline methodologists are individuals who are capable of leading systematic reviews (i.e., develop search strategies, select studies, extract data, perform meta-analyses, and construct evidence tables and summary of findings tables) and leading the formulation and grading of evidence-based recommendations. The requirement that there be a methodologist on every guideline committee has created an imbalance, with the demand for methodologists far exceeding the supply. As organizations move toward continuously updating guidelines and demand increases, this imbalance will worsen.

To combat this trend and build methodological capacity, the ATS has a methodology training program that takes individuals who have an interest in learning guideline methodology and places them on a guideline panel that needs methodological support. The trainee does the hands-on methodological work for the panel with guidance from the ATS methodologist and, in return, gains experience and middle co-authorship on the guideline. After working on one or two such guideline projects, the trainee will likely have the skills necessary to become an independent methodologist. We believe that this is a potential career pathway, particularly well-suited for clinician educators. Additional benefits of the program include a) systematic reviews performed during the development of the guideline are often publishable as independent entities and the trainee would be the first author on such derivatives, and b) participation in a methodology training workshop.

For more information on the training program, see Wilson KC, et al. American Thoracic Society Guideline Methodology Training Program. *ATS Scholar* 2022; 3(3): 379-389. Available at <https://www.atsjournals.org/doi/full/10.34197/ats-scholar.2022-0037PS>.