

Assembly on Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology (SRN) Newsletter



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Message from the Assembly Chair

Dear SRN Members,

The Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology (SRN) Assembly is entering 2026 with a clear focus: to broaden participation, increase transparency, and build a more connected, year-round community that reflects the diversity of disciplines, career stages, and perspectives within SRN.

Over the past several months, we have taken a deliberate, structural approach to strengthening SRN. This has included clarifying our organizational structure and leadership pathways, launching quarterly SRN Town Halls to increase transparency and communication, and revitalizing committee and working group efforts to support meaningful engagement throughout the year—not just at the ATS International Conference.

Our January 2026 SRN Town Hall introduced a set of initiatives designed to modernize how members engage with SRN—from open programming and nomination pathways to new educational, advocacy, networking, and leadership development efforts. These initiatives reflect a shift toward a more open, member-driven Assembly, where ideas, participation, and leadership are broadly accessible.

► Watch the January 2026 SRN Town Hall recording here:

The recording is now available on the ATS website & YouTube, please view here:

<https://site.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/journal-club>

YouTube Direct Link:

<https://youtu.be/ThRxnTmmXg>

At its core, SRN remains grounded in the science of sleep and respiratory neurobiology. A central goal of these efforts is to strengthen how cutting-edge basic, translational, and clinical science is shared, discussed, and advanced within SRN. At the same time, SRN is intentionally a broad professional home—welcoming clinicians practicing sleep medicine, educators and program directors shaping the next generation, sleep technologists and allied professionals essential to care delivery, PhD scientists, and leaders across academic, clinical, and health system settings. By creating more open, transparent, and year-round pathways for engagement, we aim to better showcase emerging science, support contributors across disciplines and career stages, and ensure that SRN remains an inclusive, interdisciplinary community integrating all pillars of academic medicine.

Now, we need your help. (link to get involved:

<https://forms.gle/BFyTDoCpAkry95VU8>)

One of my explicit goals as Chair is to substantially grow SRN membership and visibility over the next two years. Achieving this will require all of us to help spread the word—by inviting colleagues, trainees, and collaborators to join SRN, participate in our activities, and engage throughout the year.

- Share SRN initiatives within your institutions and professional networks
- Invite trainees and early-career colleagues to engage with SRN
- Participate in SRN events throughout the year

Join us at the SRN Membership and Business Meeting at ATS on Monday, May 18, 2026, from 5:00–7:00 PM—reimagined this year with a more interactive format centered on SRN priorities, impact, networking, and active member participation.

This represents a new way of doing things for SRN—more transparent, more collaborative, and more community-driven. The success of this vision depends on your engagement.

This newsletter highlights our ongoing initiatives and the many ways you can get involved, contribute, and lead. I hope you'll join me in helping SRN grow into an even stronger, more visible, and more connected community.

Warm regards,

Neomi Shah, MD, MPH

Chair, ATS Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Assembly

Assembly on Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology (SRN)

Membership Meeting

Monday, May 18, 2026
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Orange County Convention Center (Level III, West Concourse)
Room: W308

ASPIRE RECEPTION

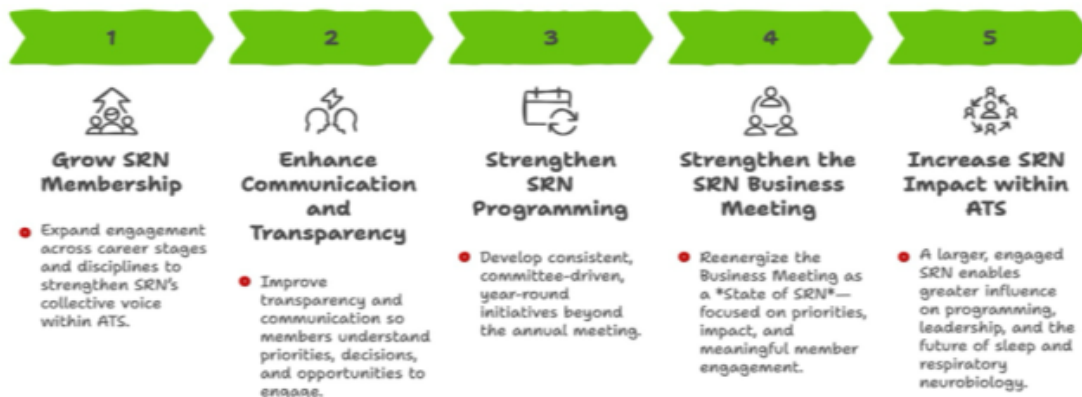
Monday, May 18, 2026
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Orange County Convention Center (Level III, West Concourse)

Room: Sunburst Room W340

What's New in SRN: Initiatives Rolling out in 2026

ATS SRN Chair: Overarching Goals for My Term 2025-2027



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Henry Klar Yaggi, MPH, MD (Chair)

We are excited to share the upcoming International Conference SRN program for this May in Orlando. We have some outstanding science showcased across symposia, mini-symposia, and poster sessions. Additional educational content is available in Meet the Expert sessions. We look forward to seeing you all and catching up!

Open programming pilot: As part of a new effort from the ATS SRN Assembly to engage members more directly in shaping what gets programmed at ATS, we are soliciting your ideas to help inform future sessions and ensure our programming reflects the breadth and innovation of our scientific community. Please send your suggestions for the Programming Committee to review prior to their meeting at the ATS international conference (May 15, 2026). You can continue to submit ideas until the submission deadlines for the International Conference. Strong but unselected ideas inform year-round virtual SRN programming.

Share your suggestions for program ideas here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W2XWFP5>

ATS 2026 International Conference Assembly on Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology (SRN) Sessions

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Start Time
A30	NEXT-GENERATION SLEEP DIAGNOSTICS: AI, WEARABLES, SENSORS, AND TRANSFORMATIVE TECHNOLOGIES ACROSS THE CARE CONTINUUM	Poster Discussion Session	5/17/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM
A79	MECHANISMS, ENDOTYPES, AND PHYSIOLOGIC CONTROL IN SLEEP APNEA	Thematic Poster Session	5/17/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
A80-1	BEYOND AHI: COGNITIVE, NEURAL, AND PAIN CONSEQUENCES OF SLEEP-DISORDERED BREATHING	Thematic Poster Session	5/17/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
B20	MODERN METRICS: ENDOTYPES, PHENOTYPES, AND STATE-OF-THE-ART SIGNAL ANALYSIS IN SLEEP-DISORDERED BREATHING	Mini Symposium	5/18/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM
B31	SLEEP ACROSS THE LIFESPAN: CLINICALLY COMPLEX POPULATIONS	RAPiD Poster Discussion Session	5/18/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM
B80-2	INNOVATIONS AND CONTROVERSIES IN SLEEP APNEA THERAPY: PAP, ORAL APPLIANCES, AND NEUROMODULATION	Thematic Poster Session	5/18/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
B80-3	MODERN APPROACHES TO OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE: DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS AND CLINICAL TRANSLATION	Thematic Poster Session	5/18/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
B87	WHEN TREATMENT HURTS: RETHINKING CPAP IN OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA THROUGH A PRECISION MEDICINE LENS	Scientific Symposium	5/18/2026	2:15 PM - 3:45 PM
C21	FROM OREXIN AGONISTS TO OXYBUTYRIN: A NEW ERA OF PHARMACOLOGIC THERAPIES IN SLEEP MEDICINE	Mini Symposium	5/19/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM
C30	SEX MATTERS IN SLEEP: MECHANISTIC, CLINICAL, AND POPULATION-LEVEL INSIGHTS	Poster Discussion Session	5/19/2026	9:15 AM - 11:15 AM
C75	FROM POPULATION TO PRACTICE: EPIDEMIOLOGY, HEALTH SERVICES, AND EQUITY IN SLEEP MEDICINE	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
C76	STRANGE BEDFELLOWS: CASES OF RARE DISORDERS, NOVEL THERAPIES, AND HIDDEN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY IN SLEEP MEDICINE	Thematic Poster Session	5/19/2026	9:15 AM - 4:15 PM
C100	UNRAVELING CARDIOVASCULAR RISK IN SLEEP APNEA THROUGH PRECISION SCIENCE: GENETIC, MECHANISTIC, AND EPIDEMIOLOGIC PERSPECTIVES	Mini Symposium	5/19/2026	2:15 PM - 4:15 PM
C109	EMERGING MECHANISMS IN SLEEP BIOLOGY: FROM EXPERIMENTAL MODELS TO HUMAN RELEVANCE	Poster Discussion Session	5/19/2026	2:15 PM - 4:15 PM

D97	WHEN TREATMENT MEETS REALITY: OUTCOMES, ADHERENCE, AND POLICY IN SLEEP APNEA MANAGEMENT	Mini Symposium	5/20/2026	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
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PLANNING COMMITTEE

Sushmita Pamidi, MD, MSci ATSF (Chair) & Camilla M Hoyos, BSc(Hons), MPH, PhD (Co-Chair)

This year, we are excited to launch a new initiative designed to broaden how we identify and recognize excellence across our community. We are creating a more open and inclusive process by inviting input directly from the assembly. Our **new awards suggestion platform** allows you to share names of colleagues whose work, impact, and contributions deserve recognition across research, clinical care, education, mentorship, and service. This will be an ongoing, year-round effort, allowing us to build a more comprehensive and representative pool of candidates over time. We hope this initiative will better reflect the breadth, diversity, and excellence of our SRN community.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to share individuals who should be recognized:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BJ8M8XK> The SRN Nomination and Planning Committees will review all submissions and follow up with selected candidates regarding next steps in the formal nomination process.

Now is also the time to start thinking about **impactful new projects for 2027**. If you have an idea that could drive meaningful progress in the sleep field, we strongly encourage you to take the next step. Please contact the Planning Committee members (sushmita.pamidi@mcgill.ca, camilla.hoyos@mq.edu.au) to discuss potential proposals. You can find details on the submission process here: <https://site.thoracic.org/membership/assemblies-sections/about-the-assemblies/assembly-committee-project-application-resource-center>

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2027!

Assembly members interested in submitting a Project application should start developing their ideas. Applications for NEW Assembly Projects for 2027 will be accepted July 1 through July 31, 2027.

If you have an idea or suggestion for a project application and need assistance, please contact your **Assembly Planning Committee Chair, Camilla Hoyos (camilla.hoyos@mq.edu.au)**

For questions regarding submissions please contact Miriam Rodriguez
email: Mrodriguez@thoracic.org

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Helena Schotland, MD, ATSF, FAASM (Web Director) & Iris Perez, MD (Co-Web Director)

Two exciting webinars amongst many others to highlight!

Sleep Science 360 – Tuesday April 21 at 11 AM ET (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0PE-E2PfDw>)

A faster paced, more interactive update to the traditional journal club format: tune in for presentations and discussion from the authors of five high impact sleep medicine papers from the past year.

Lead SRN: Leadership, Mentorship, and Growth in Medicine – Friday April 24 at 3 PM ET

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28hs8Dw8ns>)

A leadership webinar featuring three current presidents of the most influential specialty societies in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. If you are in pulmonary, critical care, or sleep medicine and have ever wondered how leaders in our field reach these roles, this session offers a rare opportunity to learn directly from those who have done it. Expect practical guidance, clear strategies, and candid insights.

Speakers:

- **Raed A. Dweik, MD, MBA, ATSF** – President, American Thoracic Society
- **Neil S. Freedman, MD, FCCP** – President, American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST)
- **Anita V. Shelgikar, MD, MHPE** – President, American Academy of Sleep Medicine

Session highlights will include:

1. Identifying meaningful pathways for engagement within ATS, CHEST, and AASM
2. Building a mentorship network that supports long-term professional growth
3. Transitioning from trainee involvement to committee roles and leadership

Find all of The Assembly's social media channels in one place – just one click away via Linktree:

https://linktr.ee/ats_srn_assembly?utm_source=qr_code

Linktree is a simple landing page that holds all our important Links so you can easily connect with everything we do.

You can also scan the QR code to access it instantly



Assembly Giving Is Launching Next Month

A link for Assembly Giving can be found on each Assembly home page.

The screenshot shows the ATS Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Assembly home page. On the left, there is a header with the ATS logo and the text "Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Assembly" and "\$0 USD total raised". Below this is a photo of a person wearing a brain scan cap. On the right, there is a "Secure donation" form with options for "Give once" or "Monthly", and a grid of donation amounts: \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50, and \$25. The \$50 amount is selected. Below the grid, there is a "Designation" dropdown menu set to "SRN Assembly Awards and Scholarship...". A blue arrow points to this dropdown menu with the text "Designate Your Gift Here".

SRN Assembly Designations:
 SRN Awards and Scholarships
 SRN Programs
 Carole Marcus Award
 James Skatrud Award

Designate Your Gift Here



Each page has a link to give to the ATS Research Program.

EARLY CAREER WORKING GROUP REPORT

Brandon Nokes, MD (Chair) & Ana Sanchez-Azofra, MD (Co-Chair) & Marwah Ibrahim, DO (Co-Chair), Tahir Malik MD (Co-chair sub)

Earlier this month, the ECWG hosted Dr. Jeremy Orr, associate professor of Medicine at UC San Diego Health, for a behind-the-scenes look at what it's actually like to build a major grant proposal from the ground up. If you missed the live webinar, a recording is available [here](#).



The ECWG will also be hosting a **happy hour** at the ATS international conference in Orlando on Sunday May 17 at 4:00 PM ET at Bar Tela (located inside the Hilton Orlando). This is a great opportunity to relax, network with peers, and meet leadership in a casual setting before the conference fully kicks off. Whether you're a current member or interested in joining, come grab a drink, catch up with colleagues, and make some new connections. Let's kick off Orlando the right way!

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 mentee to meet.

Hyatt Regency Orlando – Celebration 10

Sunday, May 17th – Monday, May 18th from 7 am to 7 pm

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

ATS Contact- Tiana Lino at tlino@thoracic.org

The **SRN Apprentice Program** continues to serve as an avenue to engage with trainees and create intentional tracks for those interested in developing careers in sleep medicine. For 2025-2026, our apprentices were:

- Dr. Sara Op De Beeck, Web Committee
- Dr. Bolong Xu, Planning Committee
- Dr. Jason Lynch, Program Committee

We look forward to the next class of apprentices continuing this important tradition to train the next generation of sleep physicians and scientists.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Susan Redline, MD (Chair) and Sanjay Patel, MD (Co-chair)

The Advocacy Committee continues to review and discuss evolving policy and advocacy issues, including CPAP coverage and adherence requirements, HSAT access across Medicaid programs, and documentation standards, while coordinating with partners such as American Thoracic Society, CHEST, and AASM.

PHD AND BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENTISTS WORKING GROUP

Rene Cortese, PhD (Representative)

In March, the PBTS working group held PBTS Connect, a dynamic, high-engagement virtual gathering to encourage an exchange of ideas among sleep research professionals. If you missed the live event, a recording is available [here](#).

This summer, we plan to host a virtual research symposium for SRN, so keep an eye out for more information!

Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers

Sunday, May 17th from 3 - 5 p.m.

Orange County Convention Center

Sunburst Room and Terrace (West Concourse Level III)

The reception will provide an intimate setting for networking while also allowing guests to mingle. Cocktails will be provided.

Register Here: [Reception for PhDs and Other Basic Science Research | Education - Sessions - Session Detail |](#)
[ATS 2026](#)

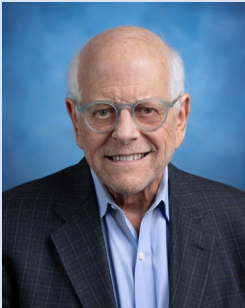
2026 Respiratory Health Awards SRN Assembly Colleagues - don't miss this!

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2026 Respiratory Health Awards! 🎉



Recognition Awards for Scientific Accomplishment – Reena Mehra, MD, MS, ATSF
A Journey Unlocking the Cardiopulmonary Consequences of Sleep Disorders

Monday, May 18 – 2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Orange County Convention Center Lecture Hall W300 (Level III)



Don't Miss the 2026 Amberson Lecture - Sunday, May 17- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Orange County Convention Center - Chapin Theater (Level III - West Concourse)

J. Burns Amberson Lecture – Marc Peters-Golden, MD

Cyclic AMP vs. Fibrosis: Harnessing Homeostasis and the Power of Pleiotropy

Advocacy Sessions

Special Topic Sessions 12-1:15		
Sunday, May 17		
Session Code:	Session Title	Speakers
SPS3	Advocating for Clean Air and a Better Climate - ATS Efforts in Environmental Health and What You Can Do	Alison Lee MD MS, Nick Nassikas MD
SPS4	Next Generation MDI Inhalers – Opportunities and Implementation Challenges	Mary Rice MD, William Feldman MD, Jyothi Tirumalasetty MD
SPS5	Coding and Billing Advocacy for ATS members	Dr. Frye, Dr. Ahasic
SPS6	Pediatric Pulmonary Advocacy in Action	Christy Sadreameli, Folashade Afolabi, Anna Volerman Beaser, Angela Metcalf, Devika Rao
MONDAY, MAY 18		
SPS11	Preserving the Pathway – Early Career Professionals Road to Research	Siri Vaeth, MSW, Hara Levy, MD, MMSc Andrew Herrin
SPS13	Clearing the Air: Mobilizing Tobacco Advocacy	Anne Melzer, MD, Sven Jordt, PhD,
SPS15	Navigating Health Policy in a Changing Landscape: Coverage, Workforce, and Advocacy	Andrew Herrin, Sharron Crowder, PhD, RN, ATSF, FAAN, Nicholas Kolaitis, MD, MAS, Mary McGowan, Denise Kent, PhD, APRN
SPS16	Florida and its Critical Needs	Michael D. Schweitzer, MD, Amanda Kovacich, William Miller

Networking Super Center

Networking Super Center - ATS 2026: Learning Studio				
Dates/Times	Sunday, May 17	Monday, May 18	Tuesday, May 19	Wednesday, May 20
7:00 - 8:00 AM	PRDS Ceremony	How to Work with Industry in 2026	From A-to-I & O-to-Omics: An Introductory Field Guide to AI & Omics Research in Lung Diseases	High-Tech, Human-Centered: Practical Strategies for Integrating Ultrasound, AI, and Digital Tools Without Losing the Patient
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Teaching in the ICU @ Night	Getting Engaged in Clinical Trials: Pathways and Strategies for Budding Trialists	From Science to Storytelling: How to Use Narratives to Advocate for Change	Widen Your Net, Broaden Your Path: Networking and Portfolio Building for Early Career Scientists
10:00- 11:00 AM	Conducting High-Impact Pulmonary Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries	Elevator Speech Workshop: Sharpening Your Professional Identity	Diagnosing and Addressing Learning Disabilities in Trainees	Models and Techniques to Map the Influence of Extracellular Matrix Across the Lung
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Advocacy Roadmap: A Path to Career and Advocacy integration	AJRCCM, AJRCMB, AnnalsATS, ATS Scholar Combined Journal Talks Journal editors	Legislation, Implementation, Outcomes, and the Path to 50 States: Stock Albuterol Policies	Reliable Lung Sounds: Practical AI at the Point of Care
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Navigating Prior Authorization Challenges and Finding Solutions	Breathe Easy: The Scope of Pediatric Pulmonary Fellowship Training in the United States	Finding Your Team: Networking Across Disciplines for Stronger Science	Survive, Then Thrive: Innovations in Post-ICU Recovery with Team-Based Care
1:00-2:00 PM	Strategies for Success in Leadership	Strategies for Patient Engagement in Research & Clinical Care: PAR Expertise and Support	Who I Am Matters: The Impact of Intersecting Identities on Workforce, Research, and Health Outcomes	
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Resources from the NIGMS Sepsis Human Biospecimens Program	Optimizing Individual Learning in the Multi-Disciplinary ICU: Building Skills & Gaining Competencies	From Labs to Lungs: Translating Respiratory Science for Impact	
3:00 - 4:00 PM	Physician Wellbeing 2.0 (Beyond the Warm and Fuzzy Hour)	Navigating the Early Career: Expert Panel Discussion of Career Development, Mentoring, and Networking	Academic Career as an International Medical Graduate (IMG)	
4:00 - 5:00 PM	Storytelling Series	Storytelling Series	Storytelling Series	
Networking Events: PhD Reception (3-5 p.m.) TEACH (4-5 p.m.) IMG Reception (4-5 p.m.)				



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— Raed Dweik, MD, MBA, ATSF, ATS President



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Enroll to enter a drawing and
a chance to **WIN BIG!**

FIRST PRIZE
FREE VIP experience at
ATS 2027, New Orleans

SECOND PRIZE
Series 11 Apple Watch



Step into the future at the AI Lab

Visit the **ATS 2026 AI Lab Exposition Space** — a dedicated innovation site inside the Exhibit Hall.

Experience curated sessions from the **ATS AI Taskforce** and **hands-on engagement** with industry leaders.

