



20TH ANNUAL

RESPIRATORY DISEASE Young Investigators' Forum

Developing the next generation of physician-scientists

Final Outcomes Summary
Live activity: 10/17/2024 – 10/20/2024
Grant ID: 90902711





Activity Summary

View the video recap of the 20th Annual Respiratory Disease Young Investigators' Forum [here](#)

Grant ID 90902711 | 20th Annual Respiratory Disease Young Investigators' Forum

Educational Objectives: Discuss new and emerging areas of respiratory research that offer new inroads to effective therapies and treatment; establish mentoring and collegial relationships to support scientific endeavors and career advancement; evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of peer research presentations; incorporate peer/expert faculty feedback effectively to enhance research presentations; discuss key strategies for career development as a physician-scientist; and describe the comprehensive process for securing grant support for research.

Intended Audience: Pulmonary, allergy and immunology fellows and junior faculty who are beginning their research careers.

Actual Reach: 31 young investigators; 9 expert faculty; 3 research advisors

Format: Three-day live, in-person forum consisting of junior faculty/fellow presentations, expert faculty panel, structured feedback, and mentoring and networking opportunities.

Program Location:
The Jacquard, Autograph Collection
222 Milwaukee St, Denver, CO

Dates: October 17-20, 2024

Outcomes Levels: Moore's Level 1, 2 and 4

Outcomes Strategy: Pre-program survey; program evaluation

Summary: The 20th Annual Respiratory Disease Young Investigators' Forum aimed to connect young investigators with expert faculty and peers in the respiratory disease field to improve research methodologies, enhance presentation and communication skills, and stimulate an academic career in respiratory disease and allergy research. The meeting was successfully implemented from October 17-19, 2024, **with 100% of evaluation respondents reporting that they would recommend this program to their colleagues.**



20-Year Reunion at ATS 2024

In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Respiratory Disease Young Investigators' Forum, National Jewish Health hosted a reunion event during the ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA on Saturday, May 18, 5:30-7pm. Former young investigators from the past twenty years were invited to network, reconnect, and celebrate the accomplishments of the RDYIF community.





Program Overview

The 20th Annual Respiratory Disease Young Investigators' Forum, a live independent medical education activity accredited by National Jewish Health (NJH), was held in Denver October 17-20, 2024. The Forum is designed to enable **pulmonary, allergy and immunology fellows and junior faculty** to present their research and interact with expert faculty to improve research methodologies and presentation skills; enhance communication in the field of respiratory disease and allergy; develop relationships with faculty mentors; assist in translating laboratory research into useful bedside application; and stimulate an academic career in respiratory disease and allergy research. In celebration of the 20th year of the Forum, all expert faculty and research advisors were former young investigators themselves. The Forum continues to prove to be a valuable and impactful annual event for fellows and junior faculty who are beginning their research careers.

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to participate in this program. It was excellent - fun, educational, and a great way to network with leaders in the field."
- 2024 Young Investigator



Young investigator **Jeremy Hua, MD** asking a question about a peer's presentation.





Program Design

The content of the program was based on basic science and clinical research in the field of respiratory disease submitted by young investigators, who competed for acceptance into the program and then served as the program presenting faculty. The program enabled a diverse group of 31 fellows enrolled in fellowship programs such as allergy, respiratory tract disease, or pulmonary medicine, as well as early career faculty in these fields, to present the results of their basic science or clinical research to their peers and an experienced expert faculty panel.

“It was helpful having multiple opportunities to convey my research project to a room of physician scientists. This gave invaluable feedback regarding effective communication.”

- 2024 Young Investigator

The program consisted of:

- ✓ Personalized feedback and coaching from research advisors during rehearsals
- ✓ Clinical and scientific young investigator presentations
- ✓ Small group discussions and mentoring
- ✓ Networking with peer leaders and expert faculty
- ✓ An expert faculty panel providing real time feedback and scoring
- ✓ Expert faculty presentations on career development topics relevant to fellows and junior faculty
- ✓ Q&A after each scientific and career development presentation



Learning Objectives

1. Discuss new and emerging areas of respiratory research that offer new inroads to effective therapies and treatment
2. Establish mentoring and collegial relationships to support scientific endeavors and career advancement
3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of peer research presentations
4. Incorporate peer/expert faculty feedback effectively to enhance research presentations
5. Discuss key strategies for career development as a physician-scientist
6. Describe the comprehensive process for securing grant support for research



Expert Faculty at 20th Annual Respiratory Disease Young Investigator's Forum



Young Investigator Awards

All young investigator presentations were scored by the expert faculty panel. The top three presenting young investigators with the highest scores in both Basic Science and Clinical Research were presented with a plaque and given a monetary award to be used toward future research or to attend a national respiratory meeting such as AAAAI, ATS, or CHEST. The award is provided to the recipient's institution for distribution to the recipient according to policies. The young investigator with the highest evaluation scores from her peers was also recognized with a peer award. To recognize the achievement of the attending fellows, all 31 were provided with a CME certificate indicating participation at the Forum.

First Place Award Winners

Basic Science Research

First Place –

Daniel J. Wallman, MD
(Center for
Regenerative Medicine /
Boston Medical Center)



Clinical Research

First Place –

Courtney Gaberino, MD
(University of Wisconsin)





Young Investigator Awards

Second Place Award Winners

Basic Science Research

Second Place –
Kale Bongers, MD, PhD
(University of Iowa)



Clinical Research

Second Place –
Ye Sun, MD, MPH
(Boston Children's
Hospital)

Third Place Award Winners

Basic Science Research

Third Place –
Sarah Holton, MD, PhD
(University of Washington)



Clinical Research

Third Place –
Andrew Moore, MD
(Stanford University)



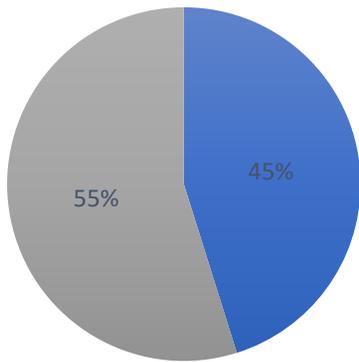


Dashboard: Activity Impact

36 Abstracts Received /
31 Accepted / 31 Attended

Expert Faculty 9
Research Advisors 3

Accepted Investigators



■ Total Faculty ■ Total Fellows

1st Year
Faculty
Position: 9
2nd Year
Faculty
Position: 5

2nd year: 2
3rd year: 9
4th year: 6

100%

would
recommend
program to
colleagues

n=24

97%

reported activity
positively
influenced interest

in pursuing a
career as a
physician-
scientist

What is the biggest benefit of participating in the forum?
“Culture of excitement about research - increases my desire to be
a part of the field.”
-Young Investigator, 2024

Research Disease States

- Asthma
- COPD
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Interstitial Lung Disease
- Lung Cancer
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Pneumonia
- Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Sarcoidosis
- Sepsis
- Tuberculosis



PROGRAM CHAIRS



Ravi Kalhan, MD, MS
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University Clinical and Translational
Sciences (NUCATS) Institute
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2004

“The 2024 RDYIF was inspiring and motivating for all who attended. Early career respiratory investigators presented compelling work in a positive, engaging environment. Expert faculty mentors provided feedback that was both insightful and incisive. Perhaps more importantly, early career investigators were afforded the opportunity to network with their peers, build meaningful relationships with more senior faculty, and gain input on their scientific work as well as their career development in both formal and informal sessions. Chairing the RDYIF in 2024 was a great privilege for me and a highlight of my career.”

Ravi Kalhan, MD, MS
2024 Program Chair



Mihaela Teodorescu, MD, MS
University of Wisconsin
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2005-2007



Program Faculty



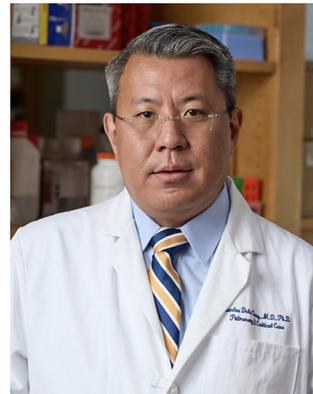
Praveen Akuthota, MD
Professor of Medicine
University of California San Diego
Health
*Respiratory Disease Young
Investigator, 2008*



Jessica Bon, MD, MS, ATSF
Professor of Medicine
Director, Airways Disease Research Center
Vice Chief for Research
Section of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy, and
Immunologic Diseases
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2007



Sonali Bose, MD, MPH, ATSF
Associate Professor, Medicine,
Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep
Medicine
Associate Professor, Pediatrics
Mount Sinai-National Jewish
Respiratory Institute
*Respiratory Disease Young
Investigator, 2010*



Charles Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF
Professor, Medicine, Pulmonary, Allergy
and Critical Care Medicine
Director, Acute Lung Injury and Infection
Center
University of Pittsburgh
*Respiratory Disease Young
Investigator, 2008*





Program Faculty



Daniel Jackson, MD
Professor of Pediatrics
School of Medicine and Public Health
Division of Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology
University of Wisconsin
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2008



Jennifer L. Taylor-Cousar, MD, MSCS
President, Medical Staff
Medical Director, Clinical Research Services
Co-Director and CF TDC Director, Adult CF Program
Professor, Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics,
Divisions of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine and Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine
National Jewish Health
Divisions of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine and Pediatric Pulmonology
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2005



Victor E. Ortega, MD, PhD
Professor of Medicine
Associate Director, Center for Individualized Medicine in Arizona
Director of Omics Research and Translation, Department of Internal Medicine
Mayo Clinic
Associate Editor, JAMA
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2007 and 2009



Research Advisors



Laura Crotty Alexander, MD
Associate Professor in Residence
Department of Medicine
Associate Division Chief
Department of Pulmonary and Critical Care
Medicine
University of California San Diego
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2009

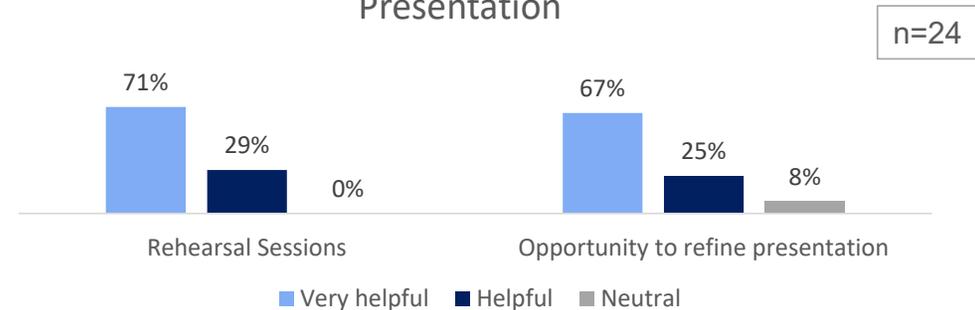


Nathan Sandbo, MD
Professor
Department of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care
Medicine
University of Wisconsin
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2005



Jane Gross, MD
Associate Professor
Departments of Pediatrics and Medicine
Divisions of Pediatric Pulmonology and
Pulmonary & Critical Care
University of North Carolina
Respiratory Disease Young Investigator, 2008

Young Investigators Rate Value of Rehearsal
Session and Opportunity to Refine
Presentation





Young Investigators

Kassandra Allbright, MD
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
COPD

Muhtadi Alnababteh, MD
National Institutes of Health
Lung Transplantation

Lauren Deanna Benton, MD
University of Arizona
Asthma

Heather Boas, MD
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Cystic Fibrosis

Kale Bongers, MD, PhD
University of Iowa
Pneumonia, Sepsis

Michael Croglia, MD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD
Pulmonary Vascular Disease

Alexander Cypro, MD
University of California San Diego
Lung Cancer

Courtney Gaberino, MD
University of Wisconsin
Asthma

Nicholas T. Hogan, MD
University of California San Diego
Asthma

Sarah Holton, MD, PhD
University of Washington
Interstitial Lung Disease

Jeremy Hua, MD
National Jewish Health
Sarcoidosis

Leah Ishmael, DO
Mayo Clinic Jacksonville
Asthma

Anthony Joudi, MD
Northwestern University
Influenza, Pneumonia

Yukiko Kunitomo, MD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
COPD

Ardian Latifi, MD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Lung Cancer

Julia Xinzhe Lee, MD
Boston Children's Hospital
Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia

Sarah Maus, MD
Wake Forest University
COPD

Stephen Mein, MD
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
COPD

Angela Metcalf, MD
University of Colorado
Cystic Fibrosis





Young Investigators

Andrew Moore, MD
Stanford University
Sepsis

Jetina Okereke, MD
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Erica M. Orsini, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Cystic Fibrosis

Jeeyon (Grace) Rim, MD
Duke University
Chronic Lung Allograft
Dysfunction

Andrew Roth, MD, MS
Washington University in St. Louis
Tuberculosis

Kelsey Sack, MD, PhD
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Pneumonia

Ye Sun, MD, MPH
Boston Children's Hospital
Asthma

Tue Te, MD, MS
University of California Los Angeles
Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Danielle VanBeckum, MD, MS
Northwestern University
Asthma

Daniel J. Wallman, MD
Boston Medical Center
Center for Regenerative Medicine
Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia

Anne Yang, MD, MS
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
COPD

Hamna Zafar, MD
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Lung Cancer

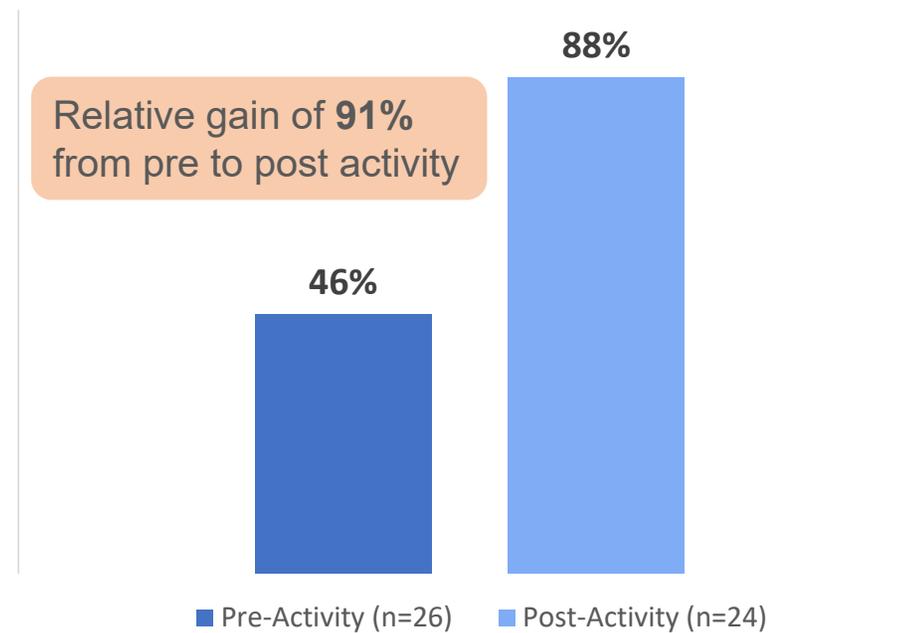
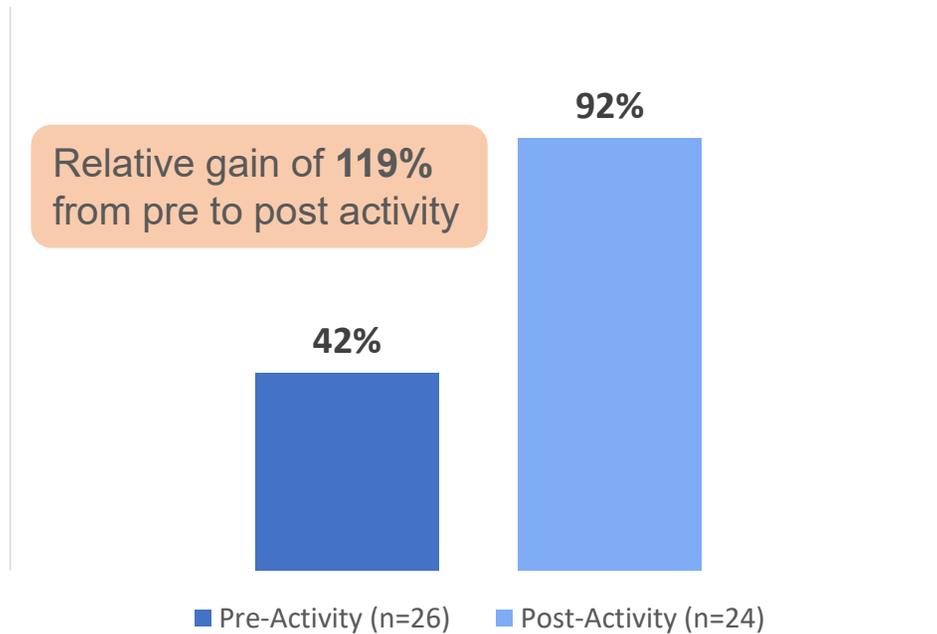


Pre- to Post-Activity Confidence

Young Investigators report being “Somewhat Confident” or “Very Confident” with:

Presenting scientific research to expert faculty

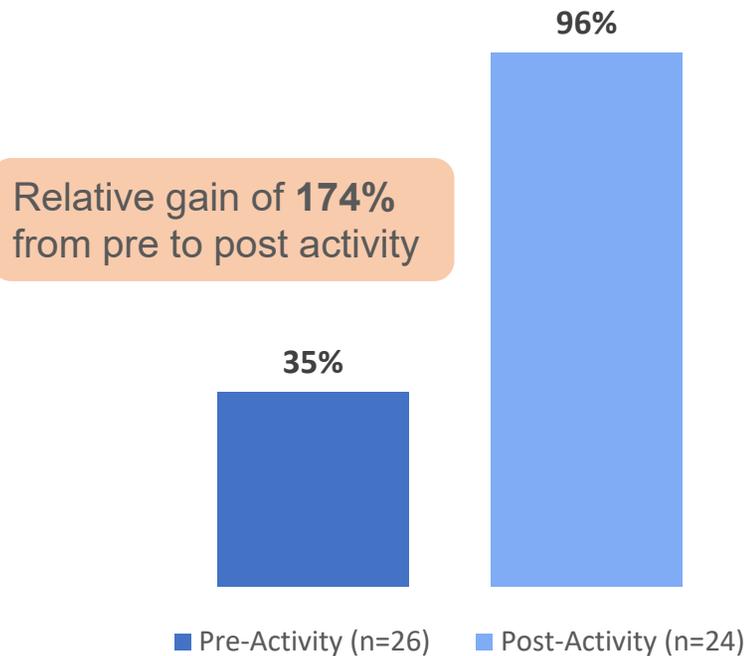
Articulating strengths/weaknesses of my research



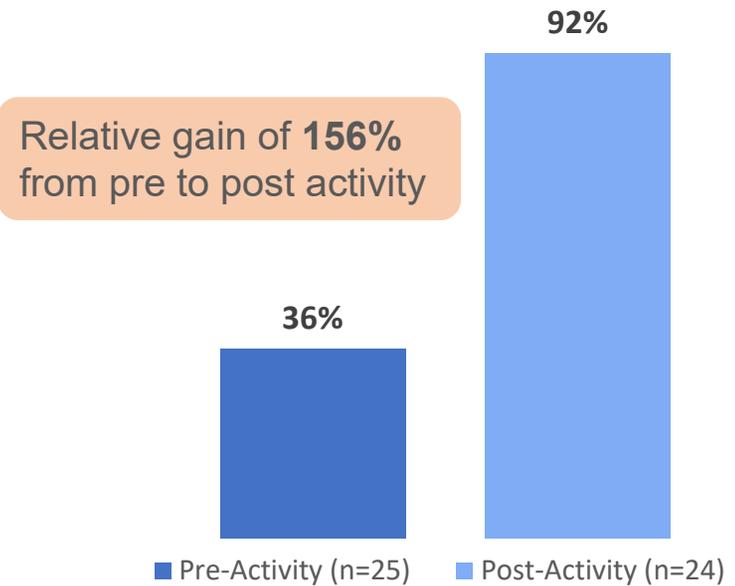


Pre- to Post-Activity Confidence

Young Investigators report being “Somewhat Confident” or “Very Confident” with:
Networking with peer researchers



Seeking input/advice from senior scientists in the field





Pre- to Post-Activity Confidence

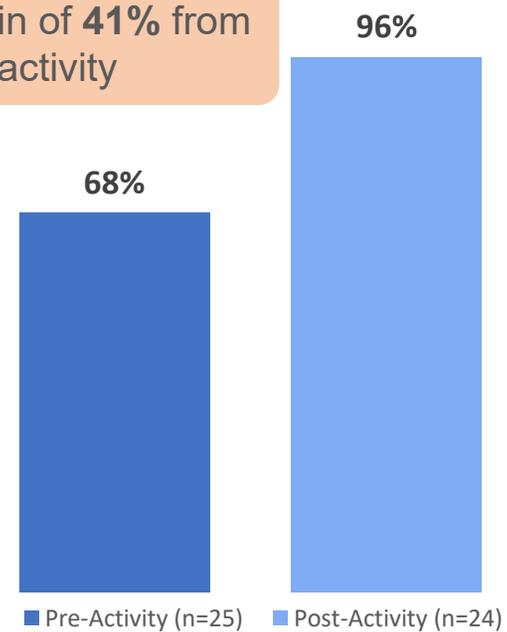
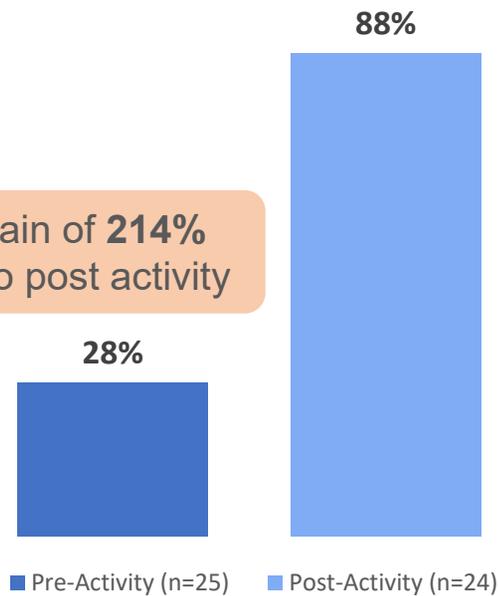
Young Investigators report being “Somewhat Confident” or “Very Confident” with:

Identifying the process for securing grant support

Incorporating peer/expert feedback to enhance presentations

Relative gain of **214%**
from pre to post activity

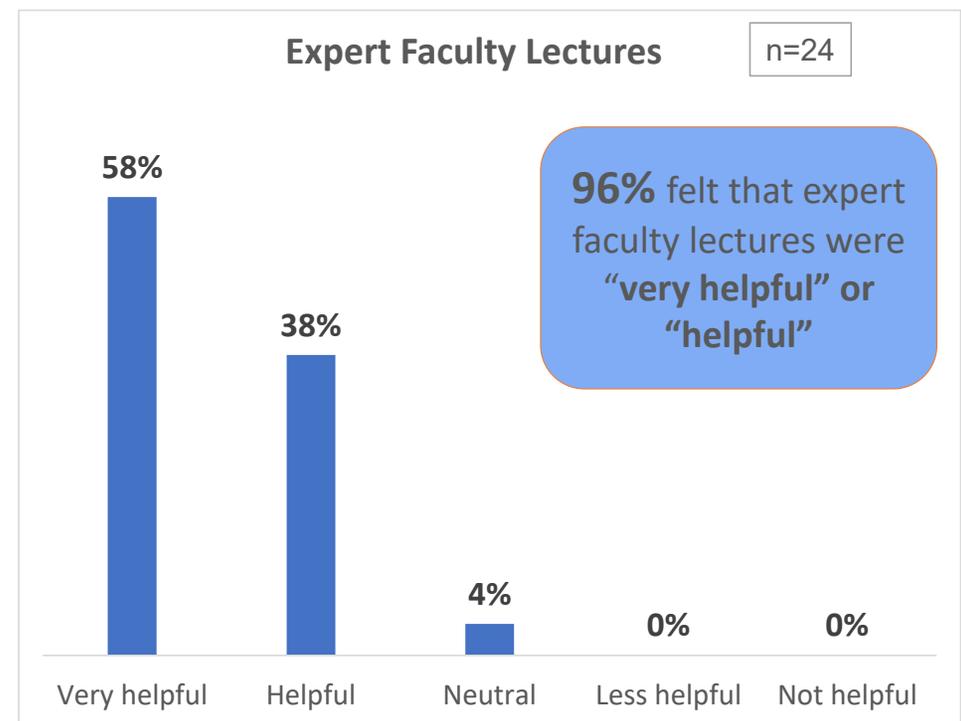
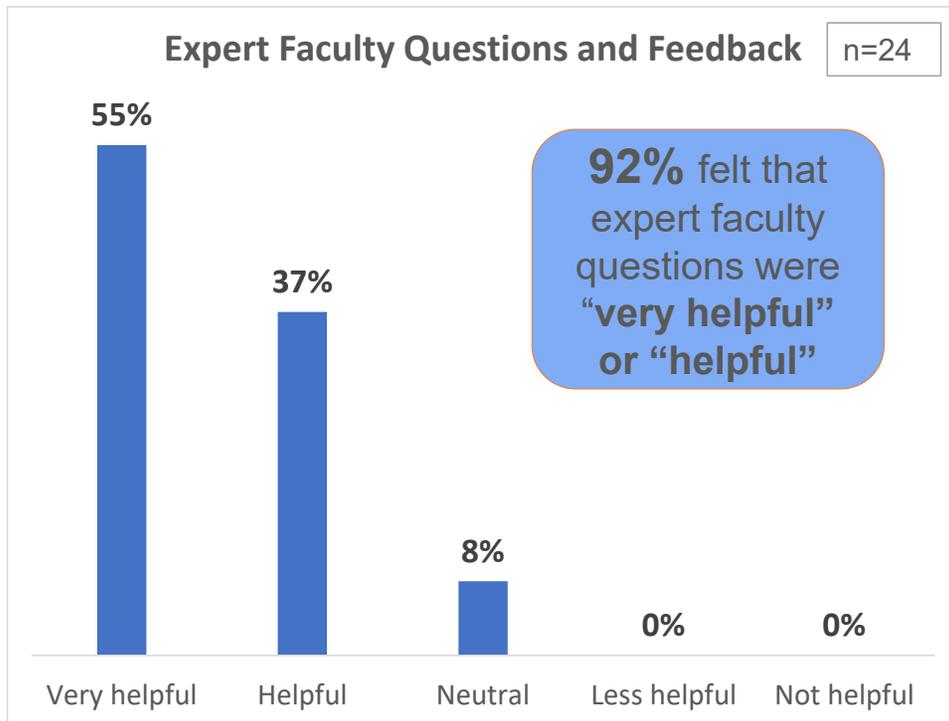
Relative gain of **41%**
from pre to post activity





Evaluation Results

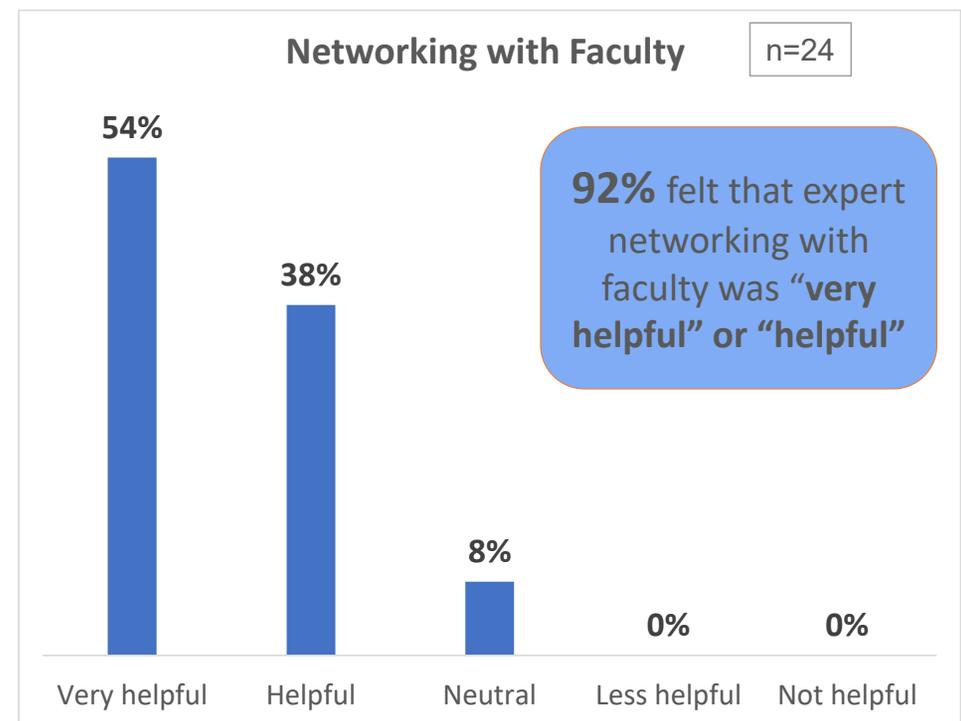
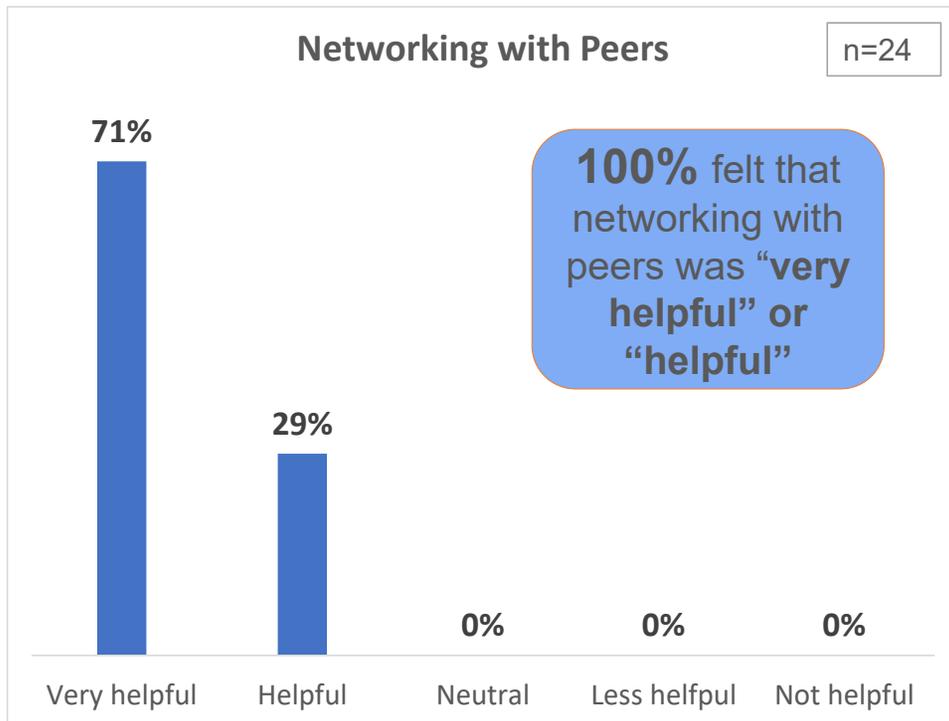
Young Investigators indicate the extent that the following components helped meet their expectations of the program:





Evaluation Results

Young investigators indicate the extent that the following components helped meet their expectations of the program:





Evaluation Results



"I have greatly enjoyed participating in the Young Investigators' Forum the last two years. The unique design of the conference helps to foster confidence and excitement for pursuing a career as a physician-scientist. I especially appreciate having one-on-one constructive feedback from a dedicated mentor regarding presentation material and execution prior to presenting to the group. The intimate size of the conference also encourages open discussion and collaboration. It is clear that the faculty are passionate about mentoring future physician-scientists and helping to provide impactful feedback regarding specifics of individual research projects as well as career advice. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend this forum and would highly recommend it to other fellows and junior faculty."

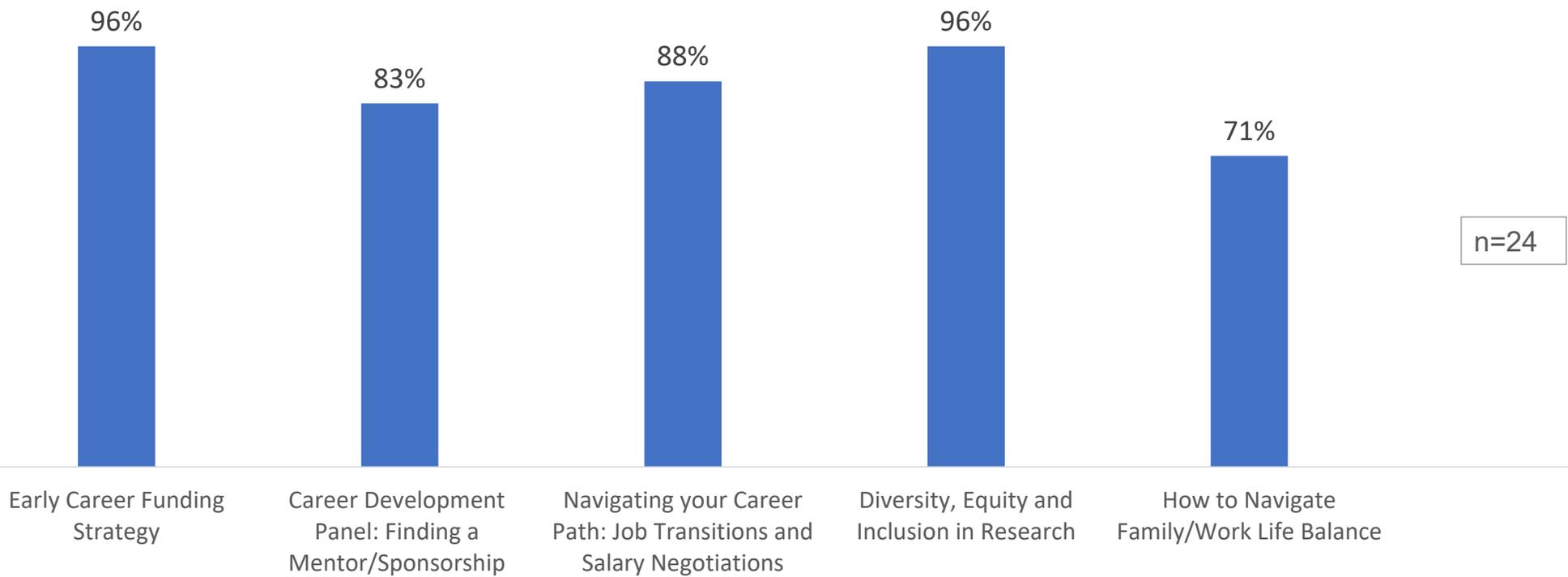
Courtney Gaberino, MD
2024 Award Winner





Expert Faculty Lectures

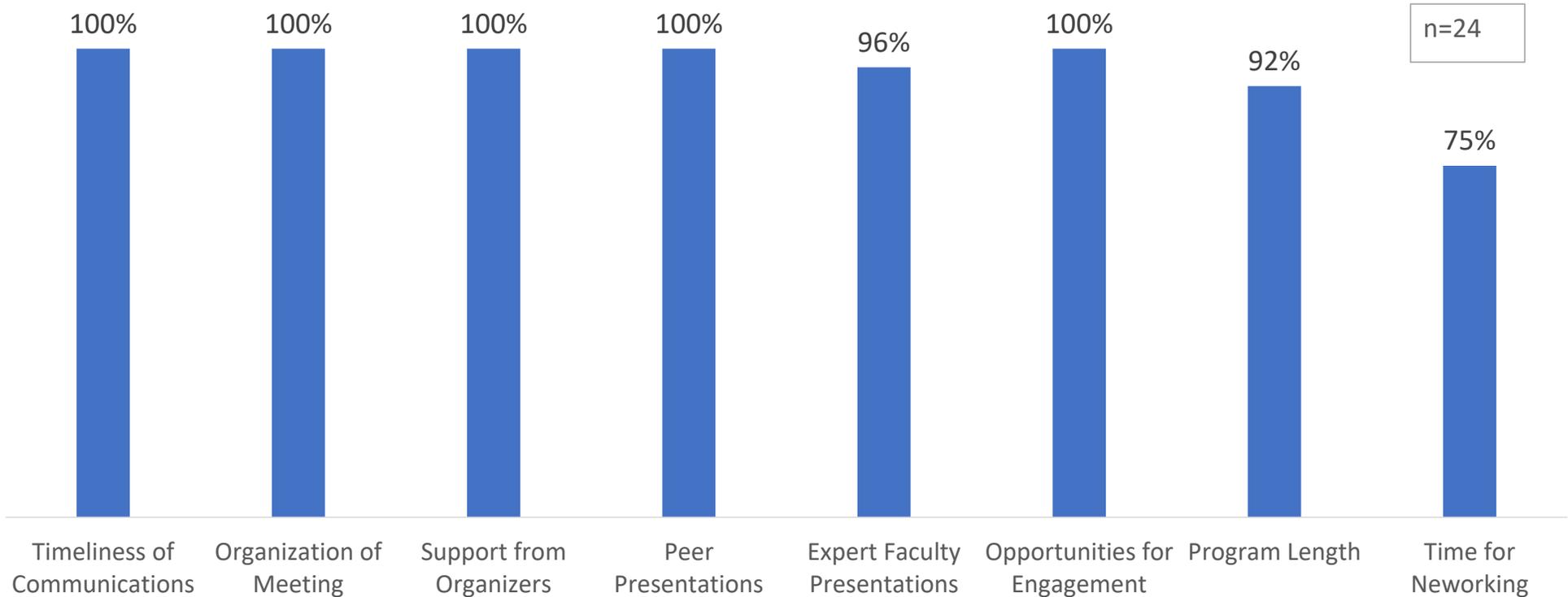
Young Investigators ranked expert faculty topics as “Very Helpful” or “Helpful”:





Overall Program Evaluation

Young Investigators ranked the following program components as “Excellent” or “Good:”





Participant Take-Aways

What was the greatest benefit of participating in this program?

- ✓ Provided a chance to connect with peers, faculty, and senior researchers in a small and supportive environment.
- ✓ Benefited from career guidance, peer and faculty mentoring, and familiarity with professionals in the field.
- ✓ Improved communication skills by practicing research presentations and receiving feedback.
- ✓ Gained confidence in presenting work and became inspired by the enthusiasm for research.
- ✓ Appreciated the inclusive and motivating atmosphere of the event, especially its fully-funded nature.



Participant Take-Aways

What are your key takeaways from this program that you will take back to your research?

- ✓ Presenting the research project multiple times to physician-scientists provided invaluable feedback on communication.
- ✓ The conference offered potential collaborations through new connections and cross-departmental interactions.
- ✓ Sessions on mentorship, sponsorship, and grant funding provided new knowledge and renewed enthusiasm for the field.
- ✓ Engaging with a broad array of peers and mentors highlighted the importance of community, sparking inspiration and creativity.
- ✓ The program boosted confidence, energized efforts, and stimulated interest in advancing the project further.



Career Trajectory Changes

What are some changes you may make in your career trajectory after participating in this activity?

- ✓ Build an external support group beyond the home institution was highly impactful, enhancing confidence and collaboration.
- ✓ Feedback provided clarity on situating research questions within a broader context, aiding future grant writing.
- ✓ Gained insights into additional funding opportunities and better understanding of early-career awards beyond traditional paths.
- ✓ Helped in clearly defining career goals, improving contract negotiation skills, and fostering flexibility in research directions.
- ✓ Boosted courage in presenting science and contributed to reducing feelings of impostor syndrome.



Overall Program Evaluation

- ✓ **100%** reported that they would **recommend this program to their colleagues**
- ✓ **100%** reported that the **learning objectives** of this activity were met
- ✓ **96%** reported that their **expectations for this forum were met or exceeded**
- ✓ **96%** reported that the **activity positively influenced their interest in pursuing a career as a physician scientist**
- ✓ **100%** reported that, in comparison to other professional development activities attended, **this activity was as helpful or more helpful toward meeting professional goals**
- ✓ **85%** reported they would **modify other abstract submissions based on feedback received during this activity**
- ✓ **100%** reported the material was **presented in an objective manner and free of commercial bias**

“...the feedback I received (as well as seeing so many other presentations) helped me change the way I think about presenting my research. I will definitely incorporate some of this feedback in future presentations (for example, use of visuals rather than lots of words on slides)”

- 2024 Young Investigator



Accreditation

National Jewish Health is accredited with Commendation by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The NJH Office of Professional Education produced and accredited this program and adhered to the updated ACCME guidelines.

National Jewish Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 14.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

