



# Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation Assembly Newsletter

We help the world breathe  
PULMONARY • CRITICAL CARE • SLEEP

Edited by Patricia W. Finn, MD, Chair

SPRING 2009

## Message From the Assembly Chairperson

Patricia W. Finn, MD

### Officers of the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

Assembly Chair  
2007-2009: Patricia W. Finn  
pwfinn@ucsd.edu

Planning Chair  
2006-2009: John G. Mastronarde  
john.mastronarde@osumc.edu

Program Chair  
2008-2009: Mitchell A. Olman  
Olmanm@ccf.org

Program Chair-elect  
2008-2009: John V. Fahy  
john.fahy@ucsf.edu

Nominating Chair  
2008-2009: R. Stokes Peebles, Jr  
stokes.peebles@vanderbilt.edu

Web Directors  
2008-2009: Jonathan P. Parsons  
Jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu

### Warm Greetings:

Welcome to our AII Assembly Newsletter! It is a great pleasure to update our Assembly on our activities and accomplishments. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of the AII members. In particular, I would like to thank the members of the AII Executive Committee for their hard work and dedication. I appreciate all of you and your talent!

### Assembly Projects 2009:

- Jonathan Parsons, MD, Msc – “Management of Exercise-Induced Bronchospasm – An ATS Clinical Practice Guideline”
- Sally Wenzel, MD – “International ERA/ATS Consensus on definition, evaluation, mechanisms, and research into severe asthma”
- Gustavo Matute-Bello, MD; Gregory Downey, MD – “Consensus Definition of Acute Lung Injury in Animals”

Congratulations to all for developing and working towards the successful implementation of these exciting projects. These projects have the ability to positively impact the AII Assembly and the ATS.

### Travel Awards:

We are grateful to the Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research, GlaxoSmithKline, Inc, and ATS PAR Member : Sarcoidosis Research Institute for providing this funding. Mitch Olman and other members of the program committee have selected the awardees based on the abstracts submitted to the international meeting. We anticipate being able to provide 8 awards. We will also recover funding for 3 awards from the International Lung Health Committee

We greatly appreciate input from our Assembly membership. Please contact us if you have any question. We are always looking for new participants in the committee membership. We welcome new faces!

I am very excited about our upcoming International Conference in San Diego (my home town!), which will be quite memorable. See you all in sunny San Diego!

## AII Planning Committee Report

John Mastronarde, MD

The Virtual Asthma Center continues to grow and prosper. Jerry Krishnan, MD, PhD, has done a tremendous job as Editor of the Asthma Journal Club and there are now 6 articles and reviews on the site! We are continuing to look for clinical asthma cases and are open to other suggestions for further expansion of the Virtual Asthma Center.

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## AII Planning Committee Report

John Mastronarde, MD

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We have finished the survey of AII members regarding topics felt to be important for potential project submissions. We will be discussing these with the AII Executive Committee and plan a series of working groups to discuss and develop project submissions.

## AII Nominating Committee Report

Stokes Peebles, MD

Stokes Peebles, MD, and Julie Wilder, PhD, serve as the AII Assembly Nominating Committee for 2008-2009. Julie is an Associate Scientist in the Respiratory Immunology and Asthma Program at the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute in Albuquerque, NM and Stokes is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Allergy, Pulmonary, and Critical Care Medicine at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, TN. Julie and Stokes were responsible for assembling the slate of candidates for both the Program Chair-Elect and the Nominating Committee for 2009-2010. The pool of names that were considered by the Nominating Committee for both offices were either proposed by members of the AII Assembly or were individuals who had been particularly active and effective in AII activities over the past 5 years. After reviewing the names provided by these sources, Julie and Stokes contacted the top candidates and asked if these Assembly members would be willing to serve if elected. The candidates are listed below:

### Program Committee Chair-Elect

Jurgen Schwarze, MD – Edinburgh University  
Peter Sterk, MD, PhD - University of Amsterdam

### Nominating Committee Members

Mitch Olman, MD – Cleveland Clinic  
Ruxana Sadikot, MD – University of Illinois, Chicago  
John Mastronarde, MD – Ohio State University

The election for these offices will occur at the Assembly meeting during the ATS International Conference. Prior to the election, a biosketch for each of the nominees will be available so that Assembly members will be able to learn more about each of the candidates.

## AII Program Committee Report

Mitchell Olman, MD

I would like to thank the entire membership of the 2009 Program Committee for a job well done. Our assembly remains one of the best represented at the meeting in both quantity and quality. As the number of abstracts submitted by our assembly determines the allotted space for symposia, poster discussion and other sessions, we should all encourage a continued and robust submission of abstracts. I know you are all focused on putting together your presentations for 2009, but I would ask you to keep your mind open during the 2009 meeting for specific topical areas that are of interest to our assembly members and you feel need more attention. Please use this knowledge to put together novel and exciting symposia, post-graduate courses, and meet the professor sessions that are due in early summer.

Perhaps an explanation of the process of programming might help to enlighten and empower assembly members to continue to submit their best work to ATS.

This year, the Program Committee completely re-organized the method for programming sessions. We built on the foresight of Dr. Stokes Peebles in growing our membership. All AII Assembly-related abstracts were grouped into one of 8 topical areas. Each topical area, composed of approximately 100-150 abstracts, was programmed as sym-

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## AII Program Committee Report

### Mitchell Olman, MD

(Continued from page 2)

posia, poster discussion sessions or thematic poster sessions by one or two groups leaders, selected from our Committee. Dr. John Fahy (Chair Elect for 2009) and I would like to extend a grateful hand to these stalwarts as they gave up their time around Thanksgiving for no easy task, to program the sessions within their topical areas. Having done this, John and I then rearranged the sessions to fit with AII's programmatic interests and the Assembly's allotted time/session slots. In addition, John and I optimize the number of AII-assembly members' oral presentations on the docket by aggressively partnering with other assemblies to put forth jointly-sponsored symposia and other sessions. We thank Dr. Monica Kraft for increasing the number of jointly-sponsored symposia, a thoughtful plan designed to broaden their appeal. At the end of the day, it is our meeting, so we have both the reward and the shared responsibility of continuing to make it the best it can be.

## ATS 2009 – San Diego

### Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

#### Postgraduate Courses

##### Saturday, May 16, 2009

PG15	ASTHMA AND ALLERGIC DISEASES: STATE OF THE ART IN BIOLOGY AND THERAPEUTIC TARGETS	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
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#### Symposia

##### Sunday, May 17, 2009

A10	ASTHMA PHENOTYPES: FROM MOLECULAR TO CLINICAL	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
A89	IDENTIFYING GENETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY TO SEPSIS, ACUTE LUNG INJURY, AND MULTI-ORGAN DYSFUNCTION	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

##### Monday, May 18, 2009

B10	MICRORNA (PART TWO): MANAGING LUNG DISEASE	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
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##### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C10	RESOLUTION BIOLOGY: NEW TWISTS ON INFLAMMATION RESEARCH	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
C89	TARGETING PROTEASES IN PULMONARY INFLAMMATION AND RE-MODELING: NEW INSIGHTS INTO DISEASE PATHOPHYSIOLOGY	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

##### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D5	THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE NEUTROPHIL IN INFECTIOUS/INFLAMMATORY LUNG INJURY AND HOST DEFENSE	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
D85	PHENOTYPIC FINGERPRINTING IN ASTHMA AND CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE: SYSTEMS BIOLOGY IS ENTERING THE CLINIC	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

#### Meet the Professor Seminars

##### Sunday, May 17, 2009

MP401	RADIOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS OF DIFFUSE LUNG DISEASE	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
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##### Monday, May 18, 2009

MP501	PHENOTYPES AND GENOTYPES OF ASTHMA	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
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##### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

MP601	PATHOGENESIS OF EXERCISE-INDUCED BRONCHOCONSTRICTION	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
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## ATS 2009 – San Diego Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

### Meet the Professor Seminars

#### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

MP602	PULMONARY COMPLICATIONS OF BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
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### Sunrise Seminars

#### Monday, May 18, 2009

SS101	THE GENETICS OF SEPSIS AND THE INNATE IMMUNE SYSTEM	7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
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#### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

SS201	AIRWAY REMODELING IN ASTHMA: IS IT RELEVANT?	7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
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#### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

SS301	OBESITY AND ASTHMA: NEW INSIGHTS AND CHALLENGES	7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
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SS302	NUCLEOTIDE RECEPTORS IN LUNG INFLAMMATION: DANGER SIGNALS AND VOLUME CONTROLS	7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
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### Workshops

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

WS8	UNDERSTANDING EXHALED NITRIC OXIDE GAS EXCHANGE	12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
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### Mini-Symposia

#### Monday, May 18, 2009

B13	ADVANCES IN RESPIRATORY GENETICS	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
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B91	THE YIN AND YANG OF LUNG INJURY: NEW INSIGHTS INTO MECHANISMS OF PROGRESSION AND RESOLUTION	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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B92	NEW TREATMENT APPROACHES FOR ASTHMA AND ALLERGY	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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#### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C13	MECHANISMS OF DISEASE IN HUMAN ASTHMA	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
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C91	NEW CONCEPTS IN AIRWAYS INFLAMMATION	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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#### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D91	CURRENT CONCEPTS IN ALLERGIC AND INFLAMMATORY DENDRITIC CELL ACTIVATION	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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D92	MECHANISMS OF IMMUNE ACTIVATION AND REGULATION	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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### Poster Discussion Sessions

#### Sunday, May 17, 2009

A101	MOUSE MODELS OF ALLERGIC INFLAMMATION: MECHANISMS	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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#### Monday, May 18, 2009

B21	AIRWAY INFLAMMATION: NEW INFORMATION ABOUT MEDIATORS AND BIOMARKERS	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
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B101	GRANULOCYTE ACTIVATION AND EXECUTION OF EFFECTOR FUNCTIONS IN THE LUNG	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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B102	IMMUNE MECHANISMS IN THE AIRWAY AND RESPONSE TO INJURY AND INFECTION	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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#### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C21	PATHS TO LUNG INJURY AND REPAIR	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
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C101	VIRAL PATHOGENESIS AND IMMUNITY	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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C102	INFLAMMATION IN THE LUNG: 1 MEASURES IN EXHALED BREATH AND EFFECTS OF CIGARETTE SMOKE	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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## ATS 2009 – San Diego Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

### Poster Discussion Sessions

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D21	GENETICS OF AIRWAY DISEASES II	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
D22	MODULATORS OF INFLAMMATORY PATHWAYS IN AIRWAY DISEASE	8:15 AM - 10:45 AM

### Thematic Poster Sessions

#### Sunday, May 17, 2009

A30	ASTHMA: CLINICAL STUDIES	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
A31	EFFECTS OF CIGARETTE SMOKE ON INFLAMMATORY CELL BIOLOGY	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
A32	GRANULOCYTE AND MACROPHAGE BIOLOGY	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
A33	MEASUREMENT FACTORS AFFECTING NON-INVASIVE ASSESSMENT OF AIRWAY INFLAMMATION	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
A34	AIRWAY INFLAMMATION	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM

#### Monday, May 18, 2009

B30	GENETICS OF AIRWAY DISEASES I	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
B31	ASTHMA THERAPEUTICS - STUDIES IN HUMANS	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
B32	MUCOSAL IMMUNITY AND AIRWAY EPITHELIA	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
B33	IMMUNOLOGY/INFLAMMATION	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM

#### Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C30	INFLAMMATORY AND IMMUNOLOGICAL MODELS OF ASTHMA	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
C31	MECHANISMS OF INFLAMMATION IN THE AIRWAY	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
C32	IMMUNE CELLULAR NETWORK IN LUNG INFLAMMATION	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D30	THE ROLE OF INFLAMMATION IN CHRONIC INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
D31	NEW INSIGHTS INTO INFLAMMATION AND ACUTE LUNG INJURY	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
D32	AIRWAY INFLAMMATION: UPPER AIRWAY STUDIES AND MEASURES IN EXHALED AIR AND CONDENSATES	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
D33	ASTHMA THERAPEUTICS -- STUDIES IN ANIMAL MODELS	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
D34	HOST RESPONSE AND PATHOGENESIS OF INFECTIOUS AND INFLAMMATORY LUNG INJURY (TLRs AND LPs)	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM

## All Web Director Report

Jonathan Parson, MD, MSc

### ATS Clinical Cases

Submit a case! The American Thoracic Society features ATS Clinical Cases, a monthly series devoted to interactive clinical case presentations on all aspects of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. The cases are designed to provide education to practitioners, faculty, fellows, residents, and medical students. We especially hope to encourage participation and contribution of cases by pulmonary and critical care fellows, junior faculty, practitioners, and medical residents. Individuals can submit interesting cases to me at [jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu](mailto:jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu). Guidelines for case

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## AII Web Director Report

Jonathan Parson, MD, MSc

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submission can be found at <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/clinical-information/ats-clinical-cases/case-guidelines.html>

### ATS Virtual Asthma Center

We continue to add great content to the ATS Virtual Asthma Center! Valuable asthma content including cases, guidelines, and specific resources for patients, clinicians, and researchers are available at <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/clinical-information/asthma/index.html>.

### ATS Asthma Center Journal Club

We have recently started the Virtual Asthma Center Journal Club! The goal of this journal club is to present constructive, systematic peer-reviewed critiques of important articles relevant to the pathogenesis, diagnosis, or treatment of asthma. If you are interested in submitting a critique or suggesting an article for evaluation or have any other comments about the Virtual Asthma Center's Journal Club, please contact [John McConville, MD](#), Deputy Editor, or [Jerry A. Krishnan, MD, PhD](#), Editor-in-Chief.

## AII Membership Committee Report

Martha Monick, PhD

The AII Membership Committee is chaired by Martha Monick and includes Claire Doerschuk, David Douda, Patricia Finn, Dayna Groskreutz, Steven Kirby, Clay Marsh, John Mastronarde, Gus Matute-Bello, Bethany Moore, Michal Olszewski, Kristen Page, Nades Palaniyar, Jonathon Parsons, Joan Reibman, Rebecca Shilling, Dave Weissman, Sally Wenzel, Julie Wilder, David Wilkes and Prescott Woodruff. This Committee has the enviable task of finding an interesting and informative speaker for the Annual Dinner. With the intellectual riches present in San Diego, there were many choices.

The AII Dinner will follow the Assembly meeting on Monday at the Manchester Grand Hyatt, Douglas Pavilion B Ground Level. The dinner will be open from 7:00-10:00 PM. Dinner includes a presentation by **John West, MD, PhD, DSc** titled: **"The human lung: did evolution get it wrong?"** Dr. West is a dedicated teacher, who has run the physiology course for first year medical students at UCSD for 35 years. His little red book *Respiratory Physiology: The Essentials* has been translated into 13 languages and is used all over the world. In 1960-61, Dr. West partook in the Silver Hut expedition, planned by Sir Edmund Hillary, during which a small group of physiologists wintered at an altitude of 5800 m (19,000 ft) just south of Everest and carried out an extensive physiological program. This began a long interest in high-altitude medicine and physiology and culminated in Dr. West leading the 1981 American Medical Research Expedition to Everest during which the first physiological measurements on the summit were made. Dr. West collaborated with NASA for many years, including experiments on astronaut pulmonary function in four Spacelabs in orbit, and on the International Space Station. Dr. West has published extensively, and topics include ventilation-perfusion inequality, pulmonary circulation, and particularly, the blood-gas barrier. Dr. West's honors are many and include President of the American Physiological Society, founding fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. We are honored to have him presenting this year's AII Dinner Address.



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## AII Membership Committee Report

### Martha Monick, PhD

*(Continued from page 6)*

Beginning with the meeting in San Diego, Jonathan Parsons, MD, OSU, will be the new Chairman of the Membership Committee. While planning the annual dinner will still be a part of the committee's function, Jon is planning on expanding the committee's role to include Assembly recruitment activities. Please get in touch with Jon if you are interested in serving on this Committee. If you've never attended the yearly Assembly meeting at ATS, think about adding this meeting (Monday at 4:30 (see your Program Guide)) to your ATS agenda. We hope to see you at both the dinner and the prior meeting. There is a cost of \$10 for this year's dinner which can either be paid ahead of time or at the meeting. We encourage senior members of AII to invite trainees and younger members and cover their dinner charge. Please plan on coming; it should be a great evening.

### Please consider submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2010!

This year we will once again use an **Online Application Process** using an electronic grants submission site called proposalCENTRAL. All interested applicants must submit their Assembly/Committee Project Applications online through proposalCENTRAL. To avoid being rushed at deadline time, applicants are encouraged to register and complete a professional profile at proposalCENTRAL as early as possible.

There will be a link to proposalCENTRAL on the ATS homepage at [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org) along with comprehensive instructions that have been designed to correspond with the fields in the online application. Please consider submitting an online 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 Martha M. Monick at [martha-monick@uiowa.edu](mailto:martha-monick@uiowa.edu).

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

### Patients to Speak at Fifteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at fifteen symposia at the 2009 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposium for the last seven years as well as at an increasing number of sessions at ATS International Conferences from 2004 to 2008.

This is the sixth year that patient speakers will participate within the Assemblies' Symposia. The patients will make a five-minute presentation to offer insight into their personal journeys. This insight will address diagnosis, treatment, and how the disease has dramatically altered their lifestyle, family, career and relationships. They will share their perspective into what patients would like physicians and researchers to know about physician/patient relationships and the importance and relevance of the work in which investigators and researchers are engaged.

The symposia at which a patient perspective will be presented are listed below:

ASSEMBLY	SESSION CODE	TITLE	DATE/TIME
CP/AII	A3	Controversies In Lung Transplantation: A Pro-Con Debate	Sunday, May 17 8:15 AM-10:45 AM

## Patients to Speak at Fifteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

ASSEMBLY	SESSION CODE	TITLE	DATE/TIME
CP/AII	A3	Controversies In Lung Transplantation: A Pro-Con Debate	Sunday, May 17 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
CP/BS/NRSG/ RCMB	A82	High Impact Disease Modifying Therapies In Advanced COPD: Current Status And Future Directions	Sunday, May 17 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
PC/RCMB	A85	Selective Kinase Or Multikinase Inhibitors In Pulmonary Hypertension	Sunday, May 17 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
SRN	A87	Sleep-Disordered Breathing Beyond Obesity: The Role Of Gender, Race, And Genetics	Sunday, May 17 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
EOH/AII	B9	Fat And Flow: Implications Of Diet And Obesity For Asthma	Monday, May 18 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
CP/AII	B82	Clinical Problems In Sarcoidosis	Monday, May 18 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
PC/AII/CP	C5	Scleroderma-Related PAH: A Paradigm For Vascular Remodeling	Tuesday, May 19 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
SRN	C8	New Frontiers in the Management of Obstructive Sleep Apnea	Tuesday, May 19 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
RCMB/AII/CP/CC/ PC/RSF	C85	Mechanotransduction In Lung Injury, Repair And Fibrosis: May The Force Be With Us	Tuesday, May 19 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
RSF/CP/CC/ NRSG/PC/RCMB	C86	Causes Of Multi-organ Failure In Critically Ill Septic Patients	Tuesday, May 19 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
CP	D2	Lung Cancer Clinic: State Of The Art	Wednesday, May 20 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
CC/CP	D4	Therapeutic Frontiers In Acute Lung Injury	Wednesday, May 20 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
BS/CP/NRSG/ PED/PR	D10	Medication Availability And Access: Issues Of Value And Affordability	Wednesday, May 20 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
RCMB/AII/CP	D89	Targeting Tumor Microenvironment Interactions In Lung Cancer	Wednesday, May 20 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
CC	D93	Non-Pulmonary Problems in the ICU	Wednesday, May 20 1:30 PM-4:00 PM

### ATS PAR Symposium

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the eighth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Sunday, May 17, 2009 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.. The topic of the symposium is “Lung Fibrosis” and it will be jointly chaired by David H. Ingbar, M.D. and Donna J. Appell, RN. The program includes the following:

- New Molecular Targets In Pulmonary Fibrosis - P.B. Bitterman, M.D., Minneapolis, MN
- Patient's Perspective - *TBD*
- Lessons From Pulmonary Fibrosis In Hermansky Pudlak Syndrome NHGRI - B.R. Gochoico, M.D., Bethesda, MD
- Genomics And Pulmonary Fibrosis - J.E. Loyd, M.D., Nashville, TN
- Molecular Diagnostics And Biomarkers In IPF - N. Kaminski, M.D., Pittsburgh, PA

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## Patients to Speak at Fifteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

(Continued from page 8)

- Where Are We With Clinical Trials In IPF? - *TBD*
- Novel Treatments For Pulmonary Fibrosis: Stem Cells And All That Jazz - L.A. Ortiz, M.D., Pittsburgh, PA
- Wrap-Up Interactive Discussion - D.H. Ingbar, M.D., Minneapolis, MN

The ATS PAR Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 17 – Tuesday, May 19 2009 in the Exhibit Hall of the San Diego Convention Centre. Public Interest Organizations (PIO's) concerned with lung and sleep disorders will present information about their organizations. A representative from each organization will be present at the poster session to provide additional information.

### ATS Public Advisory Roundtable's Third Annual *Breathing Better with the ATS Forum*

This is a forum at which patients will have the unique opportunity to network and learn more about their disease. This year the panelists will focus on oxygen management and quality of life issues.

**Panel Includes:**

Patrick Stollo, MD  
Sam Giordano, MBA, RRT, FAARC  
Rell Trey Schwab

If you have any patients in the San Diego area, please encourage them to attend. They will have an opportunity to hear from and network with other patients and experts in the pulmonary community.

**May 16, 2009, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

The Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel located at One Market Place, San Diego, CA

RSVP by: April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 by emailing [cwhite@thoracic.org](mailto:cwhite@thoracic.org) or call

Courtney L. White at (212) 315-8640

### Fellows Get First Year of ATS Membership for Free!

ATS is offering a free year of ATS membership to all first-year pulmonology, critical care, sleep fellows and post-doctoral PhD fellows! This special program is intended to welcome fellows to the ATS community. The Society would like these junior entrants to the fields of respiratory medicine to take advantage of the benefits of membership and look to ATS as their professional home for post graduate and continuing medical education, networking on a global scale, and for helping them to serve the needs of patients and the public at large.

Today's fellows will be the research and clinical professionals who will achieve the next major advancement in the science and treatment of pulmonary disease, critical illness and sleep disorders critical to advancing science and practice of the fields.

To learn more about this program, send an e-mail to [fellows@thoracic.org](mailto:fellows@thoracic.org) or visit the ATS Web site at [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org) and click "Free Year for Fellows" under the Membership drop down menu. Program directors are encouraged to share this information with their fellows and other colleagues.

ATS Foundation to Host Inaugural Benefit Dinner for the  
ATS Research Program at ATS 2009 in San Diego

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation of the American Thoracic Society invites you to attend our Inaugural **Gala** Dinner benefiting the ATS Research Program on Saturday, May 16, 2009 in San Diego, California. The **evening** will begin with a **reception** at 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:45 PM. The **event** will be held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt on the Fourth Level in the Randle Ballroom. During the dinner, we will recognize ATS Research Program **awardees** and honor the **recipients** of the 2009 Breathing for Life Award. Please join us! **Please register early as seating is limited.**

To register for **the conference and reception/dinner** go to:  
<http://foundation.thoracic.org/web/ats-research-program-dinner.html>  
or call (212) 315-6822 for more information.

ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION  
ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> 4:30-6:30 PM  
MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT SAN DIEGO  
DOUGLAS PAVILION A (GROUND LEVEL)

ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION  
ASSEMBLY DINNER

MONDAY MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> 6:30-10:30 PM  
MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT SAN DIEGO  
DOUGLAS PAVILION B (GROUND LEVEL)

Supported by a generous grant from Merck & Co., Inc.