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Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

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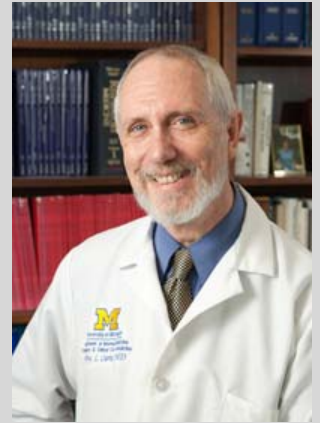
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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

I'm delighted to welcome you to our AII Assembly Spring Newsletter. Through the creative work of our members, and especially the tireless dedication of the Executive Committee, it's been a highly productive year. It's also been an uplifting year, as improved overall ATS finances are reopening possibilities for Assembly projects. Thanks to all for continuing to support ATS during the recent rough times, and please, get busy working on proposals for next year.



Jeffrey L. Curtis, MD

AII remains one of the largest and most active Assemblies not only in membership but especially in numbers of meeting abstracts and projects. This year Beth Moore and Nizar Jarjour programmed 904 member-submitted presentations (876 Abstracts & 28 Case Reports), 2nd most of any Assembly, and we had the largest number of Late-breaking abstracts (60). I believe that this productivity springs directly from the spirit of inclusiveness that has always been our Assembly's hallmark. Our size and diversity can advantage our members. It offers greater opportunity for networking to find scientific collaborators (and our academicians certainly appreciate that impact factors increase with numbers of out-of-town co-authors). We once again have an exciting program scheduled at this year's International Conference, with both cutting-edge science and an expanded Assembly Dinner that I hope you will attend.

Still, our Assembly's very size can make it seem intimidating. I want to highlight three initiatives that we believe should make our Assembly more responsive, meaningful and useful to our members.

First, Bruce Levy and the Membership Committee have formalizing a Mentoring Program that aims to make the Scientific Conference more accessible and supportive for new/junior attendees. Pointing out this program (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/aai/aai-mentorship-program.php>) to your trainees or non-North American colleagues could make the meeting a more enjoyable experience for them. Serving as a mentor yourself is a small means of giving back to the Society, and in the process, perhaps to forge a new career-long relationship. The deadline to sign up for the Mentoring Program is Friday, April 13, 2012.

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

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Second, we plan to establish an Assembly Awards program to begin at the 2013 International Conference. A subcommittee of the Executive Committee is working on a proposal to be voted on at this year's Business Meeting. I welcome your input on format (e.g., lifetime achievement versus up-and-coming stars).

Third, to facilitate your expression, Jenn McAllister and the Communications Committee are rolling out the [AII Facebook page](#), the first of any Assembly. Our goal and fervent hope is that you'll take advantage of this new means of letting us know your ideas, wants and even gripes (keeping in mind that the whole world can read what you post). AII leadership is committed to making this a more democratic and interactive Assembly.

The Facebook page is just one example of how our Assembly has always embraced and often led change within ATS. One change we're all experiencing is the speed with which biomedical science is evolving, with increased focus on team-science and a plethora of novel "-omic" techniques. Reflecting our many members who are leaders in using these techniques to understand a broad range of inflammatory lung diseases, AII hosts the Genetics & Genomics Section, which this year is hosting an evening meeting with a guest speaker.

The huge changes in health-care reimbursement impact all of us who care directly for patients. The ATS Washington Office partners effectively with our sister societies to represent us on the Hill, but they can only do so cogently if they know the full breadth of our opinions. I recognize that we do not currently have an efficient means of soliciting input from our members who are practicing pulmonologists and allergists outside of academia. That's something that I'd like to work on this coming year, and I'm open to suggestions.

Some changes hit particularly deeply. Our Assembly and my own Division lost an inspiring leader this year when Galen B. Toews, M.D. died <http://news.thoracic.org/november-2011/obituary-galen-toews.php>. In his memory, AII will be hosting a mini-symposium (**B14 CONTROL OF INNATE AND ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY IN THE LUNG, Monday, May 21, 8:14-10:45 am**).

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I want to stress that ATS and our AII Assembly can only remain viable through your commitment. One way is by volunteering your time, and it's not too early to contact Nizar about facilitating sessions at next year's International Conference in Philadelphia. But as Galen said, "Being a Division Chief would be a whole lot easier if people wanted to be paid in gold stars". Effecting the positive changes we all desire, advancing the next generation of researchers, generating ATS position statements, assuring travel awards for colleagues from developing countries, can only happen with money. At last month's ATS Board of Directors meeting, I learned of the incredible amount of financial support that's come from ATS Staff, 100% of whom have contributed to the ATS Foundation. It would be disappointing if our members lagged behind. It's not widely known that you can designate all or a fraction of any donation you make to ATS to be used for Assembly projects or awards. I urge you to attend this year's ATS Research Dinner, and to give targeted donations.

Thanks to all for your support. I am looking forward to seeing each of you in San Francisco this year for what promises to be a great Scientific Conference.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Bethany B. Moore, PhD, Chair

The AII program committee worked hard to program many educational offerings for our Assembly members for the 2012 ATS International Conference. Our program committee consisted of 30 AII members with broad expertise in asthma, COPD, inflammation, transplantation, fibrosis and innate and adaptive immunity. Together, we

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PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Bethany B. Moore, PhD, Chair

(Continued from page 2)

worked to review and rank proposals from Assembly members regarding major symposia for the conference. It is a difficult task as there are far more meritorious proposals than there are slots in the program. Additionally, the international conference committee with representation from all Assemblies worked together to avoid overlap and put forward a diverse and interesting program.

For 2012, the AII Assembly is pleased to offer a post-graduate course on “Pulmonary adaptive immunity: more than just crossing your T’s”. We are also sponsoring a “Meet the professor” seminar on “Managing asthma phenotypes” and four Sunrise seminars on the following topics “Eosinophils: Friend or Foe in Pulmonary Disease”, “Asthma Exacerbations: Risks, Biomarkers and Management Strategies”, “Rheumatoid Arthritis Related Interstitial Lung Diseases” and “Targeting the Protease/Anti-Protease Imbalance in COPD Lung Disease”.

In terms of major scientific symposia, the AII Assembly was primarily responsible for programming the following sessions. 1) The IL-33/ST2 axis –new biology and new potential targets in asthma, 2) Divergent roles of antigen presenting cells in lung health and disease, 3) Addressing variability in asthma treatment responses: implementing an individualized approach, 4) Hypersensitivity pneumonitis: recent advances and future directions, 5) Severe asthma: a view to the future consultation, and 6) Novel inflammatory and repair pathways in COPD.

Our assembly received over 900 abstracts in the initial submission and approximately 60 late breaking abstracts. These abstracts were reviewed and scored by the program committee and were subsequently programmed into the thematic areas for 7 mini-symposia involving oral presentations, 8 poster discussion sessions and 34 thematic poster sessions. The oral presentation sessions include topics on macrophage polarization, control of innate and adaptive immunity in the lung, asthma and COPD exacerbations, novel mediators in asthma pathogenesis, early origins of asthma, and asthma phenotypes. Of special note, the Monday morning session on the control of innate and adaptive immunity within the lung will be dedicated to the memory of Dr. Galen B. Toews, the former Pulmonary division chief at the University of Michigan and a former AII Assembly Chair and Program Chair.

The poster discussion sessions will be on the topics of asthma biomarkers, asthma therapy, transplant and ischemia reperfusion lung injury, microbial contributions to asthma pathogenesis, pathogenesis of lung fibrosis and airway remodeling, pathogenesis of acute lung injury, mucosal innate immunity and asthma genetics. We hope that these topics will be of broad interest to the members of the AII Assembly and that you will make plans to join us in San Francisco from May 19-23rd to learn about the latest basic science discoveries and clinical applications. A word of warning—many interesting sessions are planned for Wednesday of the conference, so don’t plan to fly home too early or you may miss your favorite topic!

I have enjoyed my two years as chair-elect and chair of the AII program committee and I am amazed at the breadth and quality of the science being conducted by our Assembly members. Dr. Nizar Jarjour will serve as chair of the program committee for the 2013 conference and the program committee for 2013 has been installed. However, if you are interested in serving on the program committee in future years, please contact either Dr. Jarjour (nnj@medicine.wisc.edu) or myself (bmoore@umich.edu) and state your area of expertise. We will be glad to pass along your contact information to the incoming program chair elect who will be elected at the May, 2012 meeting. We thank those of you who responded to the assembly email asking for volunteers to help facilitate the various sessions. It takes 200-250 facilitators to cover just the AII sessions! This is a great way to be involved with the program and to learn about the latest new science, so watch for your opportunity again in 2013! See you in San Francisco!

ATS 2012 - SAN FRANCISCO

Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

| Session Code | Session Title | Session Time | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|----------|
| Postgraduate Course | | | |
| Friday, May 18, 2012 | | | |
| PG1 | PULMONARY ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY: MORE THAN JUST CROSSING YOUR T'S | 8:00 AM | 4:00 PM |
| Scientific Symposium | | | |
| Sunday, May 20, 2012 | | | |
| A81 | SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS SYMPOSIUM: BIOMARKERS FOR LUNG DISEASE: THE CUTTING EDGE | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| A85 | THE IL33/ST2 AXIS: NEW BIOLOGY AND NEW POTENTIAL TARGETS IN ASTHMA | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| A89 | NOVEL INFLAMMATORY AND REPAIR PATHWAYS IN CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Monday, May 21, 2012 | | | |
| B11 | PROBING THE LUNG MICROBIOME IN HEALTH AND DISEASE | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| B85 | DIVERGENT ROLES OF ANTIGEN PRESENTING CELLS IN LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Tuesday, May 22, 2012 | | | |
| C86 | SEVERE ASTHMA: A VIEW TO THE FUTURE CONSULTATION | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Wednesday, May 23, 2012 | | | |
| D11 | CRITICAL CARE IN THE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| D5 | ADDRESSING VARIABILITY IN ASTHMA TREATMENT RESPONSES: IMPLEMENTING AN INDIVIDUALIZED APPROACH | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| D85 | HYPERSENSITIVITY PNEUMONITIS: RECENT ADVANCES, FUTURE DIRECTIONS | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Meet The Professor Seminars | | | |
| Sunday, May 20, 2012 | | | |
| MP401 | MANAGING ASTHMA PHENOTYPES FOR THE CLINICIAN | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM |
| Sunrise Seminar | | | |
| Monday, May 21, 2012 | | | |
| SS101 | EOSINOPHILS: FRIEND OR FOE IN PULMONARY DISEASE? | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| Tuesday, May 22, 2012 | | | |
| SS201 | TARGETING THE PROTEASE/ANTIPROTEASE IMBALANCE IN COPD | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| Wednesday, May 23, 2012 | | | |
| SS301 | ASTHMA EXACERBATIONS: RISKS, BIOMARKERS AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| SS302 | RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS RELATED INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASES | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| Mini-Symposium | | | |
| Sunday, May 20, 2012 | | | |
| A92 | SEVERE ASTHMA: PRESENT AND FUTURE | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Monday, May 21, 2012 | | | |
| B14 | CONTROL OF INNATE AND ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY IN THE LUNG | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Tuesday, May 22, 2012 | | | |
| C13 | MECHANISMS INVOLVED IN EXACERBATION OF ASTHMA AND COPD | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| B92 | ASTHMA PHENOTYPES: BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ASTHMA AND RATIONALE FOR THERAPY | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| C92 | CONTROL OF MACROPHAGE POLARIZATION AND EFFECTOR FUNCTIONS | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |

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Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

| Session Code | Session Title | Session Time | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------|----------|
| Mini-Symposium | | | |
| D92 | NOVEL MEDIATORS IN ASTHMA PATHOGENESIS | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| D93 | EARLY ORIGINS OF ASTHMA | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Poster Discussion Session | | | |
| Sunday, May 20, 2012 | | | |
| A21 | FIRST RESPONDERS: MUCOSAL INNATE IMMUNITY | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Monday, May 21, 2012 | | | |
| B21 | GENETICS OF ASTHMA | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| B101 | PATHOGENESIS OF ACUTE LUNG INJURY | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Tuesday, May 22, 2012 | | | |
| C21 | ASTHMA BIOMARKERS | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| C22 | ASTHMA THERAPY | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| C101 | TRANSPLANT AND ISCHEMIA AND REPERFUSION RELATED LUNG INJURY | 2:00 PM | 4:30 PM |
| Wednesday, May 23, 2012 | | | |
| D21 | MICROBIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASTHMA PATHOGENESIS | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| D22 | PATHOGENESIS OF LUNG FIBROSIS AND AIRWAY REMODELING | 8:15 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Thematic Poster Sessions | | | |
| Sunday, May 20, 2012 | | | |
| A31 | PATHOGENESIS OF COPD AND EMPHYSEMA IN MICE AND MEN | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A32 | SMOKE-RELATED ALTERATIONS IN LUNG BIOLOGY | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A33 | ACUTE LUNG INJURY | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A34 | NEW INSIGHTS INTO SARCOIDOSIS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A35 | RECENT ADVANCES IN PHAGOCYTE BIOLOGY | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A36 | CYTOKINES AND CHEMOKINES IN AIRWAYS DISEASE | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A37 | LIPIDS IN LUNG DISEASES | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| A38 | MICROBIAL INFLUENCES ON ASTHMA AND COPD | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| Monday, May 21, 2012 | | | |
| B31 | ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES THAT INFLUENCE LUNG FUNCTION | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| B32 | TEST YOUR DIAGNOSTIC SKILLS: INTERESTING CASES | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| B33 | ASTHMA THERAPY: NOVEL APPROACHES | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| B34 | INFLAMMATORY MECHANISMS IN ASTHMA | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| B35 | PATHOGENESIS AND CLINICAL ISSUES IN CYSTIC FIBROSIS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| B36 | AIRWAY HYPERRESPONSIVENESS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| B37 | NEW INSIGHTS INTO ASTHMA AND COPD TREATMENT | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| Tuesday, May 22, 2012 | | | |
| C31 | REGULATION OF LUNG INFLAMMATION | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C32 | REFRACTORY ASTHMA | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C33 | RHINITIS, SINUSITIS AND OTHER CO-MORBIDITIES | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C34 | ASTHMA THERAPY: NEW FINDINGS ON ESTABLISHED TREATMENTS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C35 | BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C36 | LUNG EPITHELIUM, SUBMUCOSAL GLANDS AND SMOOTH MUSCLE | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C37 | MEDIATORS OF ASTHMA AND ALLERGIC LUNG DISEASE | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| C38 | ADVANCES IN ASTHMA AND COPD SCREENING AND MONITORING | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |

ATS 2012 - SAN FRANCISCO

Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

| Session Code | Session Title | Session Time | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------|---------|
| <i>Thematic Poster Sessions</i> | | | |
| Wednesday, May 23, 2012 | | | |
| D31 | ADVANCES IN ASTHMA GENETICS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D32 | AEROSOLS THERAPY | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D33 | ASTHMA PATHOGENESIS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D34 | ASTHMA EPIDEMIOLOGY | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D35 | PHOSPHODIESTERASE INHIBITORS AS THERAPEUTICS FOR LUNG DISEASES | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D36 | INFLUENCES AND OUTCOMES OF RESPIRATORY VIRAL INFECTIONS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D37 | WHAT'S NEW IN FIBROSIS AND PNEUMONITIS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D38 | MAST CELLS AND BASOPHILS IN ASTHMA AND COPD | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D39 | EVALUATION AND MONITORING OF ASTHMA AND COPD | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |
| D40 | SEPSIS | 8:15 AM | 4:30 PM |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Thomas R. Martin, MD, Chair

The committee was fortunate that from among the many talented individuals in our assembly, we were able to agree upon, and convince to run.

Chair

Greg Downey Univ. of Colorado and
National Jewish Center
Nizar Jarjour Univ. of Wisconsin

Nominating Committee

Teal Hallstrand Univ. of Washington
Angela Haczko Univ. of Pennsylvania
Ben Suratt Univ. of Vermont

Program Chair

Bruce Levy Harvard
Gus Matute-Bello Univ. of Washington

MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP REPORT

Bruce Levy, MD, Chair

Join AII!

The Membership Committee invites all established Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation Assembly members to welcome new ATS members to the AII Assembly!

The AII Assembly is one the largest and most scientifically diverse assemblies within the ATS. We have a dynamic international membership with a broad range of clinical expertise and interests that bridge clinical medicine and fundamental research. Our goals are to enhance prevention, treatment and cures of lung diseases through research, education and advocacy with a particular focus on asthma, immunologic mechanisms of lung diseases, pulmonary fibrosis, transplantation immunology, and acute lung injury. Model systems, translational approaches and clinical studies are integral to our assembly as they are applied to understanding causal mechanisms of lung inflammation and injury, and identification of better strategies for treating lung diseases.

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MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP REPORT

Bruce Levy, MD, Chair

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Our Assembly is expanding its membership, in particular by attracting junior members, including fellows and students, so they can benefit from the resources available within AII. This year, the Membership Working Group has been actively engaged in two main projects:

1. Planning an interesting and informative Assembly Dinner, and
2. Creating a new ATS meeting-focused mentoring program

AII Dinner

The membership committee invites you to attend our ninth annual membership dinner that will be held on **Monday, May 21st at 7:00 pm** at the **Marriott Marquis Hotel (Yerba Buena Ballroom 8)**, immediately following the annual AII membership meeting.

The programming for the evening will consist of presentation of our AII Trainee Travel Awards and special guests from the American Asthma Foundation, including:

Dr. William Seaman (AAF Research Director, and Associate Chair of Medicine for Research, UCSF) who will join our AII Assembly Past-Chair and current AAF investigator, **Dr. Serpil Erzurum**, to discuss “**The American Asthma Foundation: Two Perspectives**” and **Mr. Anthony Romero** (AAF Board Member and Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union) who will discuss “**The Intersection of Medicine, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties**”.

The Assembly dinner is no longer supported by Industry, so the cost this year for the dinner is \$75 per person for ATS members, \$85 for non-members and \$35 for members-in-training (students, residents and fellows). Please register at <https://www.xpressreg.net/register/thor052/lookup.asp> and if you plan to register for additional guests, please contact Kyle O'Donnell at kodonnell@thoracic.org or by phone at (212) 315-8636 for more information. Remember that registration is required if you are attending the dinner.

Please encourage your trainees to attend both the membership meeting and the dinner; their participation will invigorate the Assembly, help them to integrate with their peer group and inform them of the many ways they can become more involved in the AII Assembly. This is also a wonderful opportunity to introduce young members and trainees to AII, to connect with old friends, and to set up new interactions and collaborations.

We are excited to be partnering this year with the American Asthma Foundation and honored to be joined by such prominent national leaders. We hope you will join your AII colleagues, fellows and students for this AII community gathering and what promises to be a very special evening.

AII Mentoring

This year we are formalizing our mentoring activities in AII with the mission to welcome new members to the AII Assembly and ATS meeting, help our large Assembly and Meeting feel smaller/more personal for new/junior attendees and create a supportive community for the career development of our next generation of pulmonary/critical care medicine students, physicians and investigators.

Students/fellows and junior faculty are invited to participate as mentees via email with interested individuals applying via the AII website (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/aia/aia-mentorship-program.php>). Prospective men-

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MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP REPORT

Bruce Levy, MD, Chair

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tees are asked to provide us with some brief information about scholarly activities, research, and goals to facilitate the pairings. The Membership committee then matches mentees with mentors. Individual Mentors from the AII membership are invited to participate based on Mentee interests. The Mentors are expected to meet their mentees at a Welcome Orientation Meeting 30 min prior to the AII Membership Business Meeting and sit with their mentees at the AII dinner that evening. Mentees are invited to attend the Welcome Orientation Meeting, will be welcomed at the membership meeting by the AII Assembly Chair and will join their Mentors at the Assembly dinner. (Note: The Mentee dinner will be paid for by the AII Assembly if they reserve in advance!) As part of their award, the AII Travel Awardees are individually paired with an AII faculty mentor.

Please encourage your students, trainees and junior faculty to participate in this wonderful resource. We would like to thank the Mentors in advance for their participation in this program and their investment of time and expertise in the AII membership and future of our Assembly. The success of this program will rely on the generosity of AII members who are willing to share their insights and experience with others.

GENETICS AND GENOMICS SECTION

Eugene Bleecker, MD, Chair, Prescott Woodruff, MD, Micheala Aldred, PhD, Co-Chairs

Genetics and Genomics Section Meeting
Marriott Marquis Hotel, San Francisco
Sunday, May 20, 2012, 6.30pm - 8:30pm

New this year: our section meeting moves to the evening and will feature a speaker and time for socializing, in addition to our business meeting. All researchers and trainees with an interest in genetics, genomics and other “omics” technologies are warmly invited.

Keynote Speaker:

Stephen H. Friend MD PhD, President and Co-Founder, Sage Bionetworks
“Use of Bionetworks to Build Maps of Disease: Moving Beyond the Linear”

The Section on Genetics and Genomics provides a forum for ATS members who utilize genetics, genomics, and other “omics” technologies to exchange ideas. We aim to increase understanding of these technologies among the broader ATS membership and to encourage and advise trainees who are considering research in genetics and genomics.

Further information: email us at gg@thoracic.org

Eugene Bleecker (AII); Prescott Woodruff (AII); Micheala Aldred (PC).

Patients to Speak At Seventeen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at seventeen symposia at the 2012 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposium (Session B90) for the last nine years as well as at an increasing number of sessions at ATS International Conferences from 2004 to 2011. This is the ninth 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 | CODE | SESSION TITLE | TALK DATE/TIME |
|------------------|------|---|-----------------------------|
| AII, RCMB | A85 | THE IL33/ST2 AXIS: NEW BIOLOGY AND NEW POTENTIAL TARGETS IN ASTHMA | Sunday 5/20 2:00-4:30 pm |
| RCMB, AII, PEDS, | A86 | NEONATAL ORIGINS OF ADULT PULMONARY DISEASE | Sun 5/20 2:00-4:30 pm |
| PC, AII, CC | A88 | MICROPARTICLES: SMALL WONDERS OR A BIG DEAL IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY AND PULMONARY HYPERTENSION? | Sun 5/20 2:00-4:30 pm |
| EOH, AII, CP | B5 | 'IDIOPATHIC' INTERSTITIAL PNEUMONIAS/PULMONARY FIBROSIS: IS 'IDIOPATHIC' TRULY 'IDIOPATHIC'? | Mon 5/21 8:15-10:45 am |
| MTPI, CP, PEDS | B10 | NON-TUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA UPDATE: GUIDELINES PLUS 5 | Mon 5/21 8:15-10:45 am |
| CP, EOH | B82 | THE MANY FACES OF BRONCHIOLITIS OBLITERANS: NEW INSIGHTS FROM OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE TO HUMAN TRANSPLANTATION | Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm |
| NUR, BSA, CP | B87 | DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS WITH PATIENTS | Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm |
| EOH, AII, BSA | B88 | WORK-EXACERBATED ASTHMA: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CLINICAL APPROACH, EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND PREVENTION | Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm |
| SRN, RSF | C8 | NO PAIN NO GAIN; WILL UPPER-AIRWAY EXERCISE TRAINING/ELECTRICAL STIMULATION WORK FOR SLEEP APNEA? | Tue 5/22 8:15-10:45 am |
| PR, BSA, NUR | C9 | PULMONARY REHABILITATION ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF ILLNESS FOR PATIENTS WITH COPD | Tue 5/22 8:15-10:45 am |
| BSA, CP | C10 | IMPLEMENTING LUNG CANCER SCREENING: MOVING FROM RCTS TO THE REAL WORLD | Tue 5/22 8:15-10:45 am |
| CP, BSA, NUR | C82 | PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY MANIFESTATIONS OF HYPERINFLATION IN COPD: PATHOGENESIS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR TREATMENT | Tue 5/22 2:00-4:30 pm |
| RCMB, AII | C88 | LUNG CANCER STEM CELLS AND THE ROLE OF THE MICROENVIRONMENT IN LUNG CARCINOGENESIS | Tue 5/22 2:00-4:30 pm |
| PEDS, AII, CP | D9 | CONTROVERSIES IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF SICKLE CELL LUNG DISEASE | Wed 5/23 8:15-10:45 am |
| AII, CP, EOH | D85 | HYPERSENSITIVITY PNEUMONITIS: RECENT ADVANCES, FUTURE DIRECTIONS | Wed 5/23 2:00-4:30 pm |
| PC, BSA, PR | D86 | IMPACT OF EXERCISE ON CARDIOPULMONARY STATUS: IMPLICATIONS FOR PULMONARY HYPERTENSION | Wed 5/23 2:00-4:30 pm |
| PAR, CP, MTPI | B90 | (PAR SYMPOSIUM) GOING FOR THE CURE: THE MYCOBACTERIA CASE | Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm |

ATS PAR Symposium

During ATS 2012, the Society's Public Advisory Roundtable will once again bring together clinicians, researchers and patients at its annual symposium on Monday, May 21, from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

This year, the program will focus on nontuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) diseases. A host of experts will discuss various research agendas, all of which are designed to identify a cure to control and reduce the burden of these environmental disorders.

"Faculty members will first talk more generally about what is needed for a disease or condition to progress toward a cure or control using mycobacterial diseases as an example," said Teresa Barnes, chair of ATS PAR and vice president of patient outreach and advocacy at the Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis, who will co-chair the symposium with ATS Immediate-Past President Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD. "Then, presenters will highlight the areas of research that are most likely to produce breakthroughs in environmental mycobacterial diseases and focus on research and its application to these disorders."

The event will begin with Ms. Barnes giving out ATS PAR's 2012 awards, which honor individuals who are committed to advancing research and clinical care in the fields of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. Next, Dr. Schraufnagel will introduce a patient speaker who will talk about NTM disease from the patient and family perspectives. Other faculty members will then focus on the importance of removing bacteria from the environment, the role of molecular methods in diagnosis and testing effective treatments.

For more information about this symposium, please visit <http://conference.thoracic.org> and search for session B90.

Breathing Better with the ATS

The American Thoracic Society Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to invite you to our sixth annual FREE patient forum "Breathing Better with the ATS."

**SATURDAY MAY 19, 2012
FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
San Francisco Marriott Marquis
55 Fourth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(Room Golden Gate A, Golden Gate Level B2)**

The event will be held in conjunction with the ATS International Conference. You'll have an opportunity to hear from experts in the pulmonary community and network with them afterwards. This year's discussions will focus on quality of life and the panel includes:

Paul Wolters, MD • Jeffrey Swigris, DO • Jeffrey Golden, MD
Molly Bourne, MD • Sally McLaughlin, RN, MSN

PLEASE RSVP BY EMAIL TO cwhite@thoracic.org
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2012

For further questions please contact Mr. Courtney L. White at (212) 315-8640.

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2013!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2013. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at www.thoracic.org.

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair Jonathan Parsons MD at Jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu.

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

The ATS Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC), which sets policies for the development of Official ATS Documents, will be holding a hands-on workshop in conjunction with the ATS International Conference

What: "Document Development: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers"

When: Friday, May 18 from 12:30-4:00 PM; lunch will be served

Where: The San Francisco Marriott

Attendance at this event is required for Chairs of writing committees which have received ATS support for their New or Renewal project in 2012.

Others with an interest in guideline development, or in official documents in general, are encouraged to attend as well.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and talk with the ATS Methodologist, Documents Editor, and members of the ATS DDIC - we hope to see you there!

RSVP to Jessica Wisk at jwisk@thoracic.org

Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation Membership Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 21ST

5:00PM-7:00PM

SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL

YERBA BUENA BALLROOM 8

LOWER B2 LEVEL

*Assembly on
Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation
Dinner*

*MONDAY, MAY 21ST
7:00PM-10:00PM*

*SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL
YERBA BUENA BALLROOM 8
LOWER B2 LEVEL*

Help Select Future ATS Leaders: Submit Your Nominations

The Society's Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for candidates to be elected ATS Secretary-Treasurer for 2013-2014. The successful candidate will advance through the leadership offices and serve as ATS President in 2016-2017.

The position of Secretary-Treasurer is critical for the ATS, as this individual spends three years learning about the Society's structure and leadership. They will then serve as President in the fourth year; and finally serve as immediate past in the final year as an officer.

When making a nomination, it is recommended that you consider an individual's organizational ability, leadership skills, reputation in the field, willingness to devote time to the ATS, contributions to the work of the Society's and diplomacy.

The Nominating Committee has improved the process for submitting nominations; please visit <http://www.thoracic.org/go/secretary-treasurer> to learn more about this position and to nominate a colleague or to submit a self nomination.

Letters of Interest are due by July 31, 2012.

About the other ATS Journals

American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (AJRCCM) continues its new initiatives, including faster review turnaround times, concise clinical reviews, an images section, the fellows recommended reading series, the redesigned cover, as well as podcast interviews and discussions.

American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (AJRCMB), now an online-only journal, has dramatically reduced its publag and offers free color art to members, as well as reduced rates to non-members. As a new initiative, AJRCMB will highlight in each issue one or more stellar papers written by a junior investigator.

The American Thoracic Society is relaunching *Proceedings of the American Thoracic Society (PATS)* beginning in 2013 as a bi-monthly, online, clinician-oriented journal.

The ATS is pleased to announce that John Hansen-Flaschen, MD, is the new Editor-in-Chief of PATS. Dr. Hansen-Flaschen is Professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Chief of the Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Division, and Medical Director of the Penn Lung Center.

He envisions the new PATS as “a lively scholarly journal that is fully invested in ATS values of scientific inquiry and integrity and is complementary – but not qualitatively inferior – to the two ATS established journals.” The new PATS will target clinicians with current and concise reviews, original research, commentaries, education materials, and editorials. The spectrum of content will include pulmonary, critical care, sleep medicine, pediatrics, and evidence-based nursing. PATS will retain its special issues: Aspen, Transatlantic, and the Clinical Year in Review.

Please stop by the Clinician’s Center at the ATS Conference on Tuesday, May 22, from noon to 2 pm, to meet Dr. Hansen-Flaschen.

Please join us for the Fourth Annual ATS Foundation Research Benefit on Saturday, May 19, 7:00 pm, at the Marriott Marquis San Francisco.

In response to past attendees’ requests for maximum time to socialize at the benefit, the Foundation has redesigned the format to be as interactive and fun as possible. Attendees will have the opportunity to mingle freely and network with colleagues while sampling a wide array of San Francisco’s delicious cuisines at food stations. There will be dancing to the sounds of a San Francisco DJ.

In addition to the talented early career investigators who will be honored, the benefit will pay tribute to Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD, Chief Medical Service, University of California at San Francisco. Dr. King will be the recipient of the 2012 Breathing for Life Award, the highest honor conferred by the Foundation on an individual for philanthropy.

The continuation of unrestricted and matching research partner grants will depend on the Foundation’s ability to raise funds from ATS members like you. Thanks to your past support, the Foundation will be funding three unrestricted grants, one more than last year. To register, please use this link: <https://www.xpressreg.net/register/thor052/foundation>. For more information, please visit: <http://foundation.thoracic.org>, or contact Lydia Neumann: Lneumann@thoracic.org.