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# Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

Editor: Jeffrey L Curtis, MD

## ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

**Jeffrey L. Curtis, MD**  
Assembly Chair  
jlcurtis@umich.edu

**Jonathan P. Parsons, MD**  
Planning Chair  
Jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu

**Nizar N. Jarjour, MD**  
Program Chair  
nj@medicine.wisc.edu

**Bruce Levy, MD**  
Program Chair-elect  
blevy@partners.org

**Peter J. Barnes, FRS, FMedSci**  
Nominating Chair  
P.j.barnes@imperial.ac.uk

**Jennifer W. McCallister, MD**  
Web & Communications Chair  
Jennifer.mccallister@osumc.edu

## ASSEMBLY CONTACT

Website:  
<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/aai/index.php>

Email: [aai@thoracic.org](mailto:aai@thoracic.org)

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## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

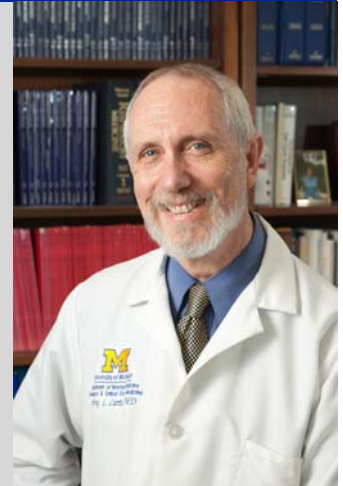
It's my pleasure, in my final time in this role, to introduce the AII Assembly Spring Newsletter. The past two years have passed with dizzying speed, but through the creativity and tireless dedication of our Executive Committee (plus the gentle, even-handed support of Miriam Rodriguez of ATS Staff keeping us on track), we've accomplished quite a bit. I hope that this brief overview convinces you that our Assembly continues to lead the ATS in innovations benefitting the membership.

As I said on assuming this role two years ago, my hope was to increase the opportunity for all manners of diversity within the Assembly. I firmly believe that it is essential that we welcome new faces and their novel ideas, adopt groundbreaking technologies, especially those of systems biology, and embrace the growing role of the international community of researchers. The following Assembly initiatives, expanded in the remainder of the Newsletter by those who did the actual work, give me hope that our membership shares a vision of ATS/AII as one venue for change to improve global health.

The formal Mentoring Program introduced at last year's meeting was a tremendous success that we hope to expand this year. This is a chance for trainees, junior faculty or foreign colleagues to get a personalized introduction to the meeting and for every senior Assembly member to enrich the experience of those who are the future of the ATS. Please see the details in the Membership Working Group Report by Angela Rogers, and sign up to be a mentor or mentee by the deadline of Friday, April 19, 2013.

Our Assembly Dinner, now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, promises to be a particularly moving event, as it features a speaker, Greg Guidotti of the non-profit organization *Positive Exposure*, whose work uniquely celebrates human diversity. We are indebted to Greg Downey for the speaker recommendation and to Angela Rogers for persevering through the arrangements to secure him. I urge you to attend to experience an electrifying message.

Grassroots participation in the Assembly's mission just got faster, easier and potentially more impactful with the launch of the AII Facebook page, the first of any Assembly. This is only the first step in our anticipated transformation of the Web and Communication (Twitter could be next, if our tech-



Jeffrey L. Curtis, MD

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## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Jeffrey L. Curtis, MD

savvy membership will help launch it). Please join co-chairs Jenn McCallister and Matt Exline, who can always use more contributions to our electronic media.

It is an acknowledgment of our investigative prowess that AII was asked to be one of three Assemblies to collaborate in an experiment to re-imagine the structure of the Annual Meeting, in an integrated Scientific Core track. Mitch Olman represented us through early brain-storming sessions and mano-a-mano negotiations to develop this first-ever unified track. Read Mitch's description of how this new core curriculum may be a one-stop venue for the newest advances in lung injury and repair. Because we've agreed that Mitch will continue in this role for the next two years, please don't hesitate to pitch to him your ideas for future integrated topics.

As we will explain at the Membership meeting in Philadelphia, we are inaugurating an Assembly Awards program, with the first two awards to be given at the 2014 meeting. We plan to honor both one up-and-coming star and a more senior member with a record of sustained accomplishment, in nominations that will come directly from the membership at large.

Finally, I want to thank all who contributed in December during the Assembly Challenge to support the Foundation for the ATS fund raising. Although we did not win the extra symposium awarded to the Assembly with the highest percentage donation, we can be proud that we raised the second highest absolute amount of funding. Please spread the word that every penny donated to the Foundation goes to support research (because ATS itself covers Foundation administrative costs).

Thanks to all for your support. In no small part because of my Executive Committee, it's been a rewarding experience. I am looking forward to seeing each of you this year in Philadelphia for what promises to be a great Scientific Conference.

<http://> 

**The AII Assembly is now on Facebook!** Like us at:  
[www.facebook.com/pages/ATS-AII-Assembly/184810514976747](http://www.facebook.com/pages/ATS-AII-Assembly/184810514976747)

## MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP REPORT

Angela Rogers, MD, MPH, **Chair**

### **AII Mentoring**

We are expanding our efforts to welcome new members to the AII Assembly and ATS meeting by continuing the very popular Mentoring Program. As we had hoped, last year's program helped make our large Assembly and the enormous Meeting feel smaller/more personal for new/junior attendees. Those who participated told us in the follow-up survey that it created 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 (<https://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/aia/aia-mentorship-program.php>). Prospective mentees are asked to provide us with some brief information about scholarly activities, research, and goals to facilitate the pairings. The Membership Working Group then matches mentees with mentors.

Individual Mentors from the AII membership (not only the Membership Working Group) are welcome. Mentors will be paired with Mentees based on Mentee interests. The Mentors are expected to meet their mentees at a Welcome Orientation Meeting 30 min prior to the AII Membership Meeting and to 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. As part of their award, the AII Travel Awardees are individually paired with an AII faculty mentor.

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# MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP REPORT

Angela Rogers, MD, MPH, **Chair**

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 willing to share their insights and experience. The deadline to register as a mentee or mentor is Friday, April 19, 2013.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual AII Assembly Dinner

The Membership Working Group cordially invites you to attend our tenth annual membership dinner, which will be held on Monday, May 20th at 7:00 pm at Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel (Liberty Ballroom Salon A& B, Level 3), immediately following the annual AII membership meeting.

This year's speaker, the award-winning fashion photographer Greg Guidotti, is the founder of the non-profit organization *Positive Exposure*, whose mission is to use photography to celebrate individuals with genetic difference. In case you are unfamiliar with this organization (<http://www.positiveexposure.org/>), Mr. Guidotti is an inspiring speaker who has delivered a TED talk and made a difference in the lives of both those he's photographed and those who view his work. This is a not-to-be missed opportunity.

As was the case last year, because the Assembly dinner can no longer be supported by Industry, its costs must be borne by attendees. Fortunately, we will be in a less expensive city than last year, so that the costs actually compare favorably to a meal on your own. Cash Bar will be available.

The cost this year for the dinner is \$60 per person for ATS members, \$70 for non-members and \$40 for members-in-training (students, residents and fellows). Please register at <https://www.xpressreg.net/register/thor053/lookup.asp>. Remember that registration and ticket are 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.

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Nizar Jarjour, MD, **Chair**

The AII program committee for the 2013 included 32 members from North America, Europe, South America, China and Japan. These colleagues provided rich expertise in the broad areas covered by the AII assembly from lung injury, inflammation and fibrosis to airway disease, infection and immunity. The group worked together to suggest major symposia, sunrise seminars, meet the professor sessions, and post graduate courses. Early in the summer, we reviewed and ranked these proposals to help identify the most meritorious sessions to program. At the end, AII was very pleased to sponsor the following major symposia:

1. COPD IN NON-SMOKERS;
2. DRUG AND COMPANION DIAGNOSTIC DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT FOR RESPIRATORY DISEASE;
3. AUTOPHAGY: FRIEND OR FOE IN LUNG DISEASE?
4. GENOMICS AND MOLECULAR BASIS OF SEVERE ASTHMA;
5. IMMUNE DYSREGULATION IN PULMONARY FIBROSIS;
6. THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES IN IPF – DEBATES BETWEEN BENCH AND BEDSIDE;
7. OBESITY, ADIPOKINES AND LUNG DISEASES.

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(Continued from page 3)

Our committee also co-sponsored with RCMB and RSF the SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS OF THE YEAR which is focused on MECHANISMS OF TISSUE REPAIR. We were also pleased to support the ATS/ERS symposium on SEVERE ASTHMA: GRADING THE CURRENT EVIDENCE AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE.

In the fall the PC reviewed and scored over 700 abstracts. These abstracts were programmed into 7 mini symposia, 8 posterior discussion, and 29 thematic posterior sessions. More recently, we received around 40 late-breaking abstracts that were reviewed and ranked. About 40% of the late-breaking abstracts were programmed this year into various sessions or placed into the *Late Breaking Abstract session*. As you may expect, it took more than 100 colleagues to help in chairing sessions, presenting featured lectures or facilitating thematic poster sessions. We aimed to include a mix of junior and more established colleagues in most sessions. We also tried to assign one facilitator for each 5 abstracts or so in the thematic poster sessions. We hope this helps ensure that each presenter has ample opportunities to interact with experts in the field and that the facilitators do not feel overly burdened with that task.

It has been my privilege to chair the program committee this past year. Thank you to all the Program Committee members and all of you who agreed to share your expertise and donate your time to help make this the best program possible. Dr. Bruce Levy has been a wonderful partner as a chair-elect this year and I am sure the Program Committee is in great hands as he assumes the leadership in May. Dr. Levy is in the process of assembling the Program Committee for next year and would appreciate hearing from you if you have any suggestions or if you would like to contribute to the 2014 ATS.

Putting together a successful program requires participation of members of the program committee, experts in the field, and the outstanding ATS annual meeting staff! They help keep the tradition of excellence that we have come to expect from the annual meeting. I hope that ATS 2013 is no exception and look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

## ATS 2013 - Philadelphia Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology, Inflammation

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Scientific Symposium</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
A85	METHODS TO STUDY LUNG INJURY AND REPAIR	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
A88	CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE IN NON-SMOKERS: THE TROJAN HORSE IN A GLOBAL TROY	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
B7	DRUG AND COMPANION DIAGNOSTIC DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT FOR RESPIRATORY DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
B85	SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS OF THE YEAR: MECHANISMS OF TISSUE REPAIR	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
C8	AUTOPHAGY: FRIEND OR FOE IN LUNG DISEASE?	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C85	FORCING THE ISSUE: THE LUNG RESPONSE TO INJURY	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2013</b>			
D7	GENOMIC INSIGHTS IN OBSTRUCTIVE AIRWAYS DISEASES	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D86	IMMUNE DYSREGULATION IN PULMONARY FIBROSIS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM

# ATS 2013 - Philadelphia

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

Session	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Jointly-Developed Symposium</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
A91	THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES IN IDIOPATHIC PULMONARY FIBROSIS: DEBATES BETWEEN BENCH AND BEDSIDE: A PRO-CON DEBATE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
C90	OBESITY, ADIPOKINES, AND LUNG DISEASES	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Meet The Professor Seminars</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
MP401	MANAGEMENT OF DIFFICULT ASTHMA	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
MP501	IMPLICATIONS OF BARIATRIC SURGERY TO THE LUNG	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
MP601	INNATE IMMUNE RESPONSE TO FUNGI IN THE AIRWAYS: RELEVANCE TO ALLERGIC BRONCHOPULMONARY ASPERGILLOSIS	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Sunrise Seminars</b>			
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
SS101	GENDER DIFFERENCES IN ASTHMA	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
SS201	ROLE OF THE UPPER AIRWAY IN THE GENERATION OF INFLAMMATION IN ASTHMA	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2013</b>			
SS301	TEMPERATURE MODULATION IN THE ICU: CAN IT PREVENT MORE INJURY?	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Mini-Symposium</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
A14	INTERLEUKIN-33: A PIVOTAL MEDIATOR FOR CROSSTALK BETWEEN INNATE AND ADAPTIVE INFLAMMATORY RESPONSES IN THE LUNG	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A93	NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO EOSINOPHIL FUNCTION AND CONTRIBUTION TO AIRWAY DISEASE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
B14	ASTHMA PHENOTYPING: UNDERSTANDING OF PATHOGENESIS AND RATIONALE FOR NEW THERAPIES	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
C13	INFLUENCE OF THE MICROBIOME ON AIRWAY MUCOSAL RESPONSES IN HEALTH AND DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C93	RESOLUTION OF LUNG INJURY AND INFLAMMATION	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2013</b>			
D13	NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO THE ROLE OF TH-17 LUNG DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D14	MACROPHAGE PHENOTYPE AND MATURATION IN HEALTH AND DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Poster Discussion Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
A21	NEW INSIGHTS INTO SARCOIDOSIS AND AN UPDATE ON WORLD TRADE CENTER-RELATED LUNG DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A101	GENETICS AND GENOMICS OF ASTHMA AND LUNG FUNCTION	2:00 PM	4:30 PM

# ATS 2013 - Philadelphia

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

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
B21	UNDERSTANDING SEVERE ASTHMA: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE AND NOVEL INSIGHTS	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
B101	AIRWAY EPITHELIAL CELL ACTIVATION AND DYSFUNCTION	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
C22	NEW INSIGHTS INTO ACUTE LUNG INJURY	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C23	NOVEL THERAPEUTICS IN ASTHMA	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C101	OBESITY: IMPACT ON LUNG FUNCTION AND DISEASE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2013</b>			
D21	CYSTIC FIBROSIS: NEW INSIGHTS INTO AIRWAY INFECTION AND INFLAMMATION	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Thematic Poster Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
A31	AIRWAY REMODELING IN ASTHMA	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A32	NEW INSIGHTS INTO ASTHMA THERAPY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A33	NEW FRONTIERS IN LUNG TRANSPLANTATION AND REJECTION	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A34	WHAT IS NEW IN RHINITIS AND SINUSITIS?	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A35	NEW INSIGHTS INTO INFECTIONS AND SEPSIS: FROM ANIMAL MODELS TO CLINICAL APPLICATIONS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A36	DIAGNOSTIC AND EPIDEMIOLOGIC ASPECTS OF ASTHMA	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
B31	PEDIATRIC ASTHMA RISK AND PREVALENCE	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B32	ADVANCES IN ASTHMA THERAPY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B33	ASTHMA MEDIATORS AND BIOMARKERS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B34	AIRWAY HYPER-RESPONSIVENESS: UNDERLYING MECHANISMS AND CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B35	AIRWAY INFLAMMATION IN ASTHMA: FOCUS ON EOSINOPHILS, MAST CELLS AND BASOPHILS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B36	ANIMAL MODELS OF ASTHMA	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B37	EICOSANOID REGULATION OF LUNG INFLAMMATION AND DISEASE	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B38	ASTHMA MANAGEMENT: ADVANCES IN EVALUATION AND THERAPY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B39	NEUTROPHILS: NEW INSIGHTS INTO THEIR ACTIVATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO LUNG INJURY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B40	ADVANCES IN GENETICS OF LUNG DISEASE	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B41	TEST YOUR CLINICAL ACUMEN: RARE CASES IN PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B42	MOLECULAR ASPECTS OF INNATE IMMUNITY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2013</b>			
C31	BIOMARKERS IN ASTHMA	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C32	ANIMAL MODELS OF ASTHMA AND AIRWAY RESPONSIVENESS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C33	COPD PATHOGENESIS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C34	NON-INVASIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE AIRWAY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C35	AEROSOL THERAPY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C36	MACROPHAGES	8:15 AM	4:30 PM

# ATS 2013 - Philadelphia Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology, Inflammation

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
C37	DENDRITIC CELLS AND T CELLS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C38	PULMONARY AND SYSTEMIC INFLAMMATION	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C39	LUNG INJURY AND REPAIR	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C40	AIRWAY EPITHELIUM	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2013</b>			
D31	RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION AND INFLAMMATION: FROM ANIMAL MODELS TO HUMAN STUDIES	8:15 AM	4:30 PM

## Other Sessions That Might Be Of Interest To You

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Postgraduate Courses</b>			
<b>Friday, May 17, 2013</b>			
PG5	MODELING HUMAN LUNG DISEASE: A TOOLBOX FOR MEANINGFUL MEASUREMENTS	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG7	PEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY PHYSIOLOGY: WHAT'S RIGHT AND WHEN IT GOES WRONG	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Saturday, May 18, 2013</b>			
PG9	UPDATE IN CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE MANAGEMENT	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG12	EVOLVING CONCEPTS IN LUNG TRANSPLANTATION	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG13	UPDATE IN THORACIC IMAGING	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
PG16	LUNG INNATE IMMUNITY: THE FRONTLINES OF HOST DEFENSE	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Workshop Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
WS2	PRIORITIZING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS	11:30 AM	1:00 PM
<b>Scientific Symposium</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 19, 2013</b>			
A5	A HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO MECHANOBIOLOGY: HOW MATRIX-CYTOSKELETON INTERACTIONS DRIVE CELL BEHAVIOR	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A8	ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A9	A TOP-DOWN VIEW: INTEGRATING EPIDEMIOLOGIC, CLINICAL, AND BASIC PERSPECTIVES ON PNEUMOCOCCAL PNEUMONIA	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A12	SEVERE ASTHMA: GRADING THE CURRENT EVIDENCE AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A86	MITOCHONDRIA AND THEIR GENOME: MORE THAN JUST A POWERHOUSE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
A89	BEYOND THE EPR 3/GINA GUIDELINES: INCORPORATING THE RESULTS OF RECENT PEDIATRIC ASTHMA TRIALS INTO CLINICAL CARE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
A90	WHEN CONVENTIONAL DRUGS AREN'T ENOUGH: ENHANCING THE IMMUNE SYSTEM IN PULMONARY INFECTIONS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 20, 2013</b>			
B5	EXCITING TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES FOR UNDERSTANDING THE EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
B12	CAREER DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM: ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES	8:15 AM	10:45 AM

# ATS 2013 - Philadelphia

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

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2013</b>			
D3	ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY: THE NEXT 50 YEARS	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D6	LINKS BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL PARTICLES IN NEOPLASIA	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D8	THE MULTIFUNCTIONAL BASAL CELL: MORE THAN A PROGENITOR	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D12	SMOKE: MANY SOURCES AND A GLOBAL THREAT TO LUNG HEALTH	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D85	DEVELOPMENTAL ORIGINS OF ASTHMA AND ALLERGIES: ENVIRONMENT, MODIFIERS, AND MEDIATORS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
D88	BIOMARKER DISCOVERY FOR TUBERCULOSIS: MOVING FROM THE BENCH TO CLINICAL APPLICATIONS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM

## Exploring the Science of Lung Tissue Injury & Repair at ATS 2013

Mitch Oلمان, MA, MD, All Assembly Science Core Track Representative

New at ATS 2013 is the introduction of a Science Core track, a thematically linked set of symposia and abstract-based sessions featuring cutting-edge research presented by prominent scientists. This track was developed as a direct response to feedback from our members who look to the International Conference as a place to learn new approaches to vexing questions, and see first hand how these approaches are applied to cutting edge, cross disciplinary investigation by world leaders. The Science Core greatly enhances this aspect of the IC, providing basic scientists with compelling content that can change the course of their research in lung disease. The sessions this year will focus on lung tissue injury and repair, with particular emphasis on mechanobiology, extracellular matrix, and methods to study injury and repair. The Science Core will take place on consecutive days during the conference and will allow interaction between presenters and attendees.

The Science Core track was conceived by David H. Au, MD, chair of the International Conference Committee, and jointly developed by the ATS Assemblies on Respiratory Structure & Function (Dr. Andrew Halayko, PhD, Professor of Physiology and Medicine at the University of Manitoba), Respiratory Cell & Molecular Biology (Dr. Lynn Schnapp, MD, Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care at the University of Washington), and Allergy, Immunology & Inflammation (Dr. Mitch Oلمان, MA, MD, faculty member in the Department of Pathobiology and in the Respiratory Institute of the Cleveland Clinic).

“These sessions will be of interest to a wide range of attendees, including scientists, physician-scientists, and clinicians,” says Dr. Oلمان, who is leading the session on Lung Response to Injury. “Our symposium on Lung Response to Injury will give attendees a broad based understanding of the principles of biophysical and biological lung cell injury and repair that underlies several lung disorders, including asthma, pulmonary edema, acute lung injury, and pulmonary fibrosis.”

### Science Core sessions at ATS 2013

A Hitchhiker’s Guide to Mechanobiology: How Matrix-Cytoskeleton Interactions Drive Cell Behavior  
 Methods to Study Lung Injury And Repair  
 Exciting Technological Advances for Understanding the Extracellular Matrix  
 Scientific Breakthroughs of the Year: Mechanisms of Tissue Repair  
 Forcing the Issue: The Lung Response to Injury  
 Poster Discussion: It Takes A Village To Repair The Lung: Cells, Pathways And Methods



# PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Jonathan Parsons, MD, MSc, Chair

The AII Planning Committee is charged with developing long range plans for the Assembly and serving as an “executive body” to the Assembly chair and Assembly members. The 2011-12 AII Planning Committee included Chair, Jonathan Parsons, Abigail Lara, Jessica Kynyk, Angela Haczku, John Balperio, Sumita Khatri, Robert Tighe, Gustavo Matute-Bello, Angela Rogers, Benjamin Suratt, Benjamin Medoff, and Megan Ballinger. The AII Membership Committee under the leadership of Angela Rogers, MD, MPH is under the umbrella of the Planning Committee. Their very productive year is described in another section in this newsletter. The primary responsibility of the AII Planning Committee is to review and prioritize Assembly Projects. Organization for that job was begun during a meeting at the 2012 ATS meeting in San Francisco.

Evaluation of 2012 ATS Projects was accomplished during a conference call in September. As a committee, we reviewed eight new project proposals. Two have been accepted for funding by ATS. Two of the three ongoing projects were recommended for renewal funding. If you are interested in becoming more involved in your Assembly and want to serve on the AII Planning Committee, feel free to email me, [jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu](mailto:jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu) and you will be considered as openings occur. There will also be a sign up sheet at this year’s meeting for people interested in serving on the Planning Committee. As Chairman, it has been a joy to work with ATS in funding worthy projects that are of interest to all of us involved in ATS.

## UPDATE ON AII ASSEMBLY PROJECTS

ATS Project support provides working funds for groups to publish new guidelines, develop meetings, create review articles and design educational programs. The work of the ATS Assemblies and Committees is critical to the success, growth and mission of ATS and project support is an integral part of the Assembly mandate. As a part of the project process, the AII Planning Committee reviewed eight new projects this last fall. Of these, one was approved. Two of three renewal projects were approved. We are pleased to announce that the projects listed below will be funded in the upcoming year.

### Sponsored by AII as primary Assembly:

1. FY2012 American Thoracic Society (ATS) Assembly **Renewal** Project titled: **International ERS/ATS Consensus on Definition, Evaluation, Mechanisms and Research into Severe Asthma.**  
Chaired by Sally Wenzel-Morganroth, MD
2. FY2012 American Thoracic Society (ATS) Assembly **Renewal** Project application titled: **Diagnosis and Management of Beryllium Sensitization and Chronic Beryllium Disease.**  
Chaired by John Balmes, MD
3. FY2012 American Thoracic Society (ATS) **New** Assembly Project application titled: **ATS research statement on recent advances Tobacco Addiction and Smoking Cessation.**  
Chaired by Alexander White, MS, MD

### Sponsored by EOH as Primary Assembly with AII as Secondary Assembly:

1. FY2012 American Thoracic Society (ATS) Assembly **New** Project titled: **5<sup>th</sup> Jack Pepys Workshop**  
Chaired by Diane Tarlo, MD

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Peter Barnes, FRS, FMedSci, **Chair**

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

### **Program Committee Chair Elect:**

1. Jay Kolls, MD, University of Pittsburgh
2. Gary Anderson, PhD, University of Melbourne

### **Nominating Committee:**

1. Parameswaran Nair, MD, PhD, McMaster University
2. Anne Sperling, PhD, University of Chicago
3. Benjamin Suratt, MD, University of Vermont

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gregory Downey, MD, **Chair**

The focus of the AII International Relations Committee for the last two years has been to increase the involvement of international members in scientific symposia, poster sessions and poster discussion sessions as well as postgraduate courses. This has been done largely through close and direct communications with the Program Committee and particularly the Program Committee Chair. One of the big successes has been a featured scientific symposium on non-smoking related chronic obstructive pulmonary disease that is scheduled on Sunday May 19, 2013 at the upcoming annual meeting of the American Thoracic Society in Philadelphia. This symposium is co-chaired by Greg Downey and Peter Barnes, both members of the AII International Relations Committee, and has speakers from the United States, Canada, Europe, India, and Japan. We are hoping that this will serve as a model for future symposia that are truly internationally focused.

## SECTION ON GENETICS & GENOMICS REPORT

Micheala Aldred, MD, **Co-Chair** & Prescott Woodruff, MD, MPH, **Co-Chair**

Building on the success of changes we made to the time and format of our Section meeting last year, we will again hold the meeting in 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.

### **Genetics & Genomics Section Meeting**

Sunday, May 19th, 6:30pm-8:30pm

Loews Philadelphia Hotel (Washington B&C)

The Section on Genetics & 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](mailto:gg@thoracic.org)

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

*Assembly on  
Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation  
Membership Meeting*

*MONDAY, MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>  
5:00PM-7:00PM*

*PHILADELPHIA MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN  
INDEPENDENCE BALLROOM  
LEVEL 3*

*Assembly on  
Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation  
Dinner*

*This year's featured speaker will be award winning photographer, Rick Guidotti, lead  
photographer for the nonprofit organization Positive Exposure*

*MONDAY, MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00PM-10:00PM*

*PHILADELPHIA MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN  
LIBERTY BALLROOM- SALON A & B  
LEVEL 3*

*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 17 from 12:30-4:00 PM; lunch will be served

Where: The Loews Hotel (Room: Washington C)

**Attendance at this event is required for Chairs of writing committees  
which have received ATS support for their New or Renewal project in 2013.**

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](mailto:jwisk@thoracic.org)

## Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2014!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2014. 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](http://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](mailto:jonathan.parsons@osumc.edu).

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

### Nursing Contact Hours through a partnership with National Jewish Health

The ATS is pleased to announce that it has partnered with National Jewish Health to provide Nursing Contact Hours for 25 sessions. The Nursing Assembly selected sessions with content that is appropriate for and relevant to the needs of its members.

Nursing Continuing Education Contact Hours for selected sessions is provided through National Jewish Health™, a provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number, CEP 12724.

For more information please visit <http://conference.thoracic.org/2013/program/nursing-contact-hours/>



### Help Us Help You!

Have you moved, changed your title, added new skills, credentials or other information? ATS members can now update their contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile quickly and easily online with the Member Profile Update form.

Keeping your profile current ensures accuracy during the ATS International Conference registration process and also helps the ATS provide you with valuable member benefits. To streamline the process, the ATS has updated and combined demographic categories, which makes it easier for you to send us pertinent information to serve you better.

The Member Profile Update form is safe and secure, and your updates will be reflected immediately in our database. **Please take a minute to login and update your member record today at** <http://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php?rl=https://thoracic.secure.force.com/MPU>

At this same web link members can now also print their own, personalized **membership certificate!**

## Forum on Collaboration

### “Inclusion and Collaboration Among University, Government and Industry at the ATS: A Road Map for the Future—Principles and Practice”

**MONDAY MAY 20, 2012**  
**FROM: 12 Noon to 1:00pm**  
**Pennsylvania Convention Center**  
**Room 107 A-B (100 Level)**

In order for the ATS to foster solutions to increasingly complex scientific and patient care challenges, a diversity of scientific and clinical approaches is required. This goal requires the ATS to provide an environment to its members that values diversity, inclusiveness, and collaboration.

To achieve these ends, our ideas need to be translated into practical action plans. This forum will offer these ideas for input and discussion from the membership. Moderated by society leaders, we will examine our differences and synergies, and try to come to some synthesis to achieve our overlapping aims. All who are interested in confronting these challenges are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion. Based on this dialogue, recommendations to ATS leadership will be made for implementation.

All ATS Members and ATS 2013 Attendees are encouraged to attend.

**CHAIRS:** Theodore F. Reiss, MD, MBE, Nicholas H. Hill, MD, Leonard Sicilian, MD

**PANELISTS:** Courtney C. Crim, MD; Joel Moss, MD, PhD; Molly Osborne, MD, PhD; Amy Simon, MD

### *Please join us for the Fifth Annual ATS Foundation Research Benefit on Saturday, May 18, 7:00 pm, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Grand Ballroom.*

Attendees will have the opportunity to mingle freely and network with colleagues while sampling a wide array of delicious offerings at food stations throughout the ballroom. There will be dancing to the sounds of a Philadelphia DJ.

In addition to the talented early career investigators who will be honored, the benefit will pay tribute to Gerard M. Turino, MD, Director of the James P. Mara Center for Lung Diseases in St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine in New York City.. Dr. Turino will be the recipient of the 2013 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/thor053/lookup.asp>. For more information, please visit: <http://foundation.thoracic.org>, or contact Erin Marie Nebel: [EMNebel@thoracic.org](mailto:EMNebel@thoracic.org)